

Par. 821152

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Friday,
18th December, 1953

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1395

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 18th December, 1953

*The House met at Half Past One of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Ila Pal Choudhury (Nabad-
wip).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRICE OF CARS

***1096. Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the extent to which the prices of cars assembled by the indigenous production Units have been brought down, as a result of the reduction in import duty on the component parts?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 9.]

Shri S. N. Mishra: How many manufacturing firms have submitted to the Government their manufacturing programmes, and how many of them have been accepted by Government?

Shri Karmarkar: Actually I think hree, Sir.

Shri S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any export programme has been submitted by these manufacturing firms and, if so, whether any refund of import duty is also contemplated?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice of the question. But some
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time back there was a small attempt at export, but it was not very much.

Shri S. N. Mishra: May I know whether the percentage of fall in the prices can be approximately given?

Shri Karmarkar: We have given the actual figures. For instance in respect of Plymouth the price before reduction was Rs. 21,555 and after reduction it is Rs. 19,360. The detailed figures have been given in the statement. My friend could easily work out the percentage.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Is it a fact that the car Hindustan of indigenous make, is the same as Morris with only change in name and with increased cost?

Shri Karmarkar: With this difference, that the majority of the parts are manufactured in India and no increase in cost.

LOCAL COAL CESS

***1097. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local coal cess charged on despatches of coal from coal mines is uniform throughout the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present rates of local cess in different parts of the country?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) No.

(b) the local cesses are levied by State Governments according to their respective requirements. Some States are not levying any such cess.

(c) A statement showing the present rates of local cesses on coal levied in some of the coal producing States is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 10.]

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do the Central Government also charge any cess on coal and, if so, for what purposes is it utilised?

Shri R. G. Dubey: There are three kinds of cess levied by the Central Government: stowing cess, labour welfare cess and rescue cess.

RUBBER

*1098. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government have issued any directions to the manufacturers regarding purchasing larger quantities of raw rubber?

(b) Is it a fact that by the time the manufacturers of Rubber goods started their purchases, the raw rubber stocks had been cornered by some agencies?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No directions were issued, but the principal manufacturers were requested in an informal way to purchase larger quantities of raw rubber.

(b) Government have no information.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Four or five days back the hon. Minister while answering a question from me said that Government were aware that private agencies have cornered large stocks of rubber. May I know whether it is a fact that such agencies which cornered large stocks of rubber sold the rubber at a very high price and realised much more profits than what they could ordinarily have done?

Shri Karmarkar: About large stocks, stocks are decreasing. About prices realised I should like to have notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it was on the basis of representations submitted by a deputation of rubber growers that Government informally requested the manufacturers to buy more?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, partly due to the representation. We went into the matter thoroughly and made an informal request.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have any information about the deputationists themselves cornering the rubber stocks, and the amount of rubber sold by each of them?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information on that point.

EXPLOSIVES LABORATORY

*1099. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Laboratory has been set up in Calcutta for the examination of bombs and explosive substances recovered in West Bengal and the neighbouring States; and

(b) if so, when and what work has been done so far?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Such a laboratory has been set up since November 1951 as part of the Central Explosives Department. It has helped the Department in the chemical analyses of various types of explosives, such as fireworks, live bombs and crackers containing prohibited mixtures, exploded bombs, etc.

श्री एच० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या मैं पूछ सकता हूँ कि इस फैक्टरी में जो फायर वर्क्स बनाए जाते हैं, वह क्या बेचे भी जाते हैं? और यदि हाँ तो अभी तक कितने रुपये के बेचे गये?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This laboratory is for testing, not for manufacturing.

श्री इश्वर एल. द्विवेदी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो नैवल रिव्यू हुआ था, उस में जो फायर वर्क्स काम में आए वह इसी फैक्टरी में बने थे ?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have no information, Sir.

RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS IN CENTRAL WATER AND POWER COMMISSION

*1101. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the institutions whose diplomas are recognised for recruitment to the posts of supervisors, all grades of draftman and estimators in the Central Water and Power Commission; and

(b) the years from which such Diplomas are recognised?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 11.]

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN P. E. P. S. U.

*1102. **Shri Ajit Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state how many Community Projects and Development Block Schemes are under execution in PEPSU?

(b) Do Government propose to undertake any more Development Blocks?

(c) If so, how many and where?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) One Community Development Project, one Community Development Block and four National Extension Service Blocks.

(b) Yes.

(c) No decision has yet been taken.

Shri Ajit Singh: What are the estimates for these schemes separately, in PEPSU?

Shri Hathi: Estimates for Community Development Blocks or National Extension Service Blocks? Which particular blocks? These are different blocks.

Shri Ajit Singh: May I know when the schemes were taken in hand and when they are expected to be completed?

Shri Hathi: The first blocks were in October 1952; the second in 1953; and the National Extension Blocks in 1953.

BRIDGE ACROSS MAHANADI

*1103. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether the Enquiry Committee appointed to scrutinise the accounts in respect of the construction of a rail-cum-road bridge across Mahanadi near the Hirakud Dam has completed its investigation?

(b) If so, what are its findings?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report of the Committee is under consideration by Government and it will be laid on the Table of the House together with the decisions of Government on the various recommendations contained therein, as soon as possible.

Shri S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any irregularity has been found by the Committee?

Shri Hathi: Sir, the matter is under consideration.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether Government propose to place the report of this Committee before the Public Accounts Committee before coming to a decision, as this Committee was appointed as a result of the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee?

Shri Hathi: I think it will be done, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I take it that the Government's considered view will be placed on the Table of the House only after taking the reactions of the Public Accounts Committee?

Shri Hathi: That would be considered, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Shri Punnoose: absent. Shri L. N. Mishra: absent. Dr. M. M. Das: absent. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: absent. Shri Gidwani.

Shri Gidwani: Question No. 1111.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I have a question, No. 1110, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. I will call him immediately after this.

COMPENSATION TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1111. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for compensation received so far by Government from the six priority categories of the displaced persons;

(b) whether the Settlement Officers have completed the work assigned to them in regard to these applications; and

(c) when the payment of compensation will commence?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 51,608 from the five priority categories under the Interim Compensation Scheme.

(b) Nearly 37,000 applications have already undergone preliminary scrutiny.

(c) Payment to the eligible persons was started in Delhi on the 28th November. Payments in the other two regions, viz., Jullundur and Bombay, will be started soon.

Shri Gidwani: May I know when it will be completed?

Shri A. P. Jain: I cannot give any date when it will be completed.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इन दरखास्तों में से पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान की कितनी दरखास्तें हैं और पूर्वी पाकिस्तान की कितनी हैं ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : ये सब पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान की हैं।

हजरत कुतुबुद्दीन का उर्स

*१११०. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** (क)

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली में हजरत कुतुबुद्दीन बख्तियार काकी के वार्षिक उर्स में भाग लेने के लिये १९५३ में कितने पाकिस्तानी नागरिक भारत आये ?

(ख) इस उर्स में आने वाले पाकिस्तानी यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिये सरकार ने क्या प्रबन्ध किया था ?

(ग) इस पर कितना व्यय हुआ ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) to (c). The annual Urs of Hazrat Qutubuddin Bakhtiar Kaki this year was held from the 21st to the 28th November. 11 Pakistani nationals actually participated in the Urs.

The Governments of Punjab (I) and Delhi made the following arrangements for the visitors:

- (1) Provided a Police escort for the pilgrim party during their stay in India;
- (2) accommodation in the precincts of the Shrine;
- (3) rail transport from Amritsar to Delhi and back;
- (4) motor transport, and
- (5) Food.

The exact figures of cost incurred during the current year's visit are not

yet available. Transport and food charges are paid by the pilgrims.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : जैसा कि अछड़ा इन्तजाम भारत सरकार ने पाकिस्तान यात्रियों के लिए किया था, क्या ऐसा ही सुन्दर इन्तजाम साधू मेला आश्रम में जाने वाले हिन्दू यात्रियों के लिए करने के लिए वह पाकिस्तान सरकार पर जोर देगी ताकि वहाँ भी ऐसा अछड़ा इन्तजाम हो सके।

श्री सादत अली खान : जी हाँ।

NORTH EAST FRONTIER AGENCY

*1112. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the N.E.F.A. Administrators had purchased two Studebaker "Pick-up-Vans" and "Wire-rope" at Dibrugarh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the purchase of the "Pick-up-Vans" and "Wire-rope"?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) Two studebaker Pick-up-Vans were purchased in 1951 after obtaining permission from the Ministry of Transport (Roads Organisation) at Dibrugarh.

Some Wire rope was also purchased, after obtaining permission from the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi.

(b) Communications in North East Frontier Agency are extremely difficult and there are no facilities for public transport. The Pick-up-Vans were purchased for general road work. The wire ropes were purchased for Suspension bridges. All ropes were tested by Government Test House, Alipore, Calcutta, before being accepted.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What was the amount involved in the purchase of these things?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: The amount involved in the purchase of the two pick-up-Vans is Rs. 27,800. For the purchase of wire ropes, in the year 1952-53 it was Rs. 5,000; in 1953-54, it was Rs. 71,160.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know if it is a fact that these things are lying idle?

Shri J. N. Hazarika: I do not think so.

DISPLACED PERSONS IN PEPSU

*1113. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the difficult condition of the displaced persons in Patiala, Nabha, Bhatinda and Sangrur which has also been brought to the notice of the present Adviser?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken in the matter?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The difficulties of the displaced persons in Patiala, Nabha and Sangrur in respect of housing have been brought to the notice of the Government and the proposals of the Adviser in this behalf are under consideration.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know what amount was given before the Adviser's regime for the displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: Amounts have been sanctioned every year. If the hon. Member tables a regular question, I shall give the answer.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know if it is a fact that on account of some reasons the help was withheld by the then Government when it was distributed to the displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not think so.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know if you would be kind enough to make enquiries as to how far the facts are correct?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not think...

Mr. Speaker: I may say that he has addressed the question to me and I am not going to make any enquiries.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Is the Government aware of the horrible conditions in which the Bahawalpur refugees are living in Patiala? What measures are Government taking to give relief to them?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have built a township called Tripuri in close vicinity of Patiala. A very large number of displaced persons are housed in that town-ship. Besides, a large number of evacuee houses, fairly in good condition have been allotted to them. There are some displaced persons who are living in rather bad conditions. As I have stated in my answer to the main question, we are considering schemes to provide houses for them.

Shri Ajit Singh: May I know the number of refugees who have been resettled in PEPSU and the number of claims from the displaced persons in PEPSU?

Shri A. P. Jain: How does that question arise, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: It includes Patiala. He wants notice. Next question.

STRIKE IN BURNPUR FACTORY

*1114. **Shri Bhagwat Jha:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether after the resumption of work by the workers at Burnpur, Asansol, normal and full production in the Iron and Steel factory has been restored?

(b) How many total working hours were lost during the strike period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As there was no regular strike, but the workers only slowed down production, it is not possible to estimate the loss in terms of hours of work on this account.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: May I know what was the approximate loss in production due to this slow-down strike?

Shri Karmarkar: On the basis of the average monthly production of 24,693 tons of steel including "semi's" for sale in 1952, the loss in production from 1st January 1953 to 30th September 1953 is 87,840 tons.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: Is it a fact that behind this slow-down strike, there were political parties instigating the strike?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: May I know if the workers who were involved in the slow-down strike will be paid their daily wages or something else?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if after the factory went to work again, the production since then has compensated for the loss of working hours during the strike?

Shri Karmarkar: I think the latest production is a little above the average.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the approximate value of the 87,000 and odd tons of steel which were lost because of the strike?

Shri Karmarkar: This can be easily multiplied by the sale price, which is published.

FIVE YEAR PLAN PUBLICITY

*1115. **Shri Bhagwat Jha:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether the Planning Commission Stalls are going to be constructed in "U.P. in India" exhibition at Lucknow, International Exhibition on Low Cost Housing at Delhi and the Kumbh Mela at Allahabad?

(b) Do Government propose to take this publicity of the Five Year Plan to the villages also?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir. The Exhibition Section participated in the Bharat Mein Uttar Pradesh

pradarshani at Lucknow by setting up a stall on the Five Year Plan; it is proposed to participate in a similar manner in the International Exhibition on Low Cost Housing in Delhi. For the Kumbh Mela at Allahabad, special arrangements are being made besides taking the two Railway Centenary trains, carrying exhibits on the Five Year Plan, to one of the Mela stations.

(b) Yes, publicity on the Five Year Plan in the villages is being undertaken through mobile units.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: May I know whether any amount has been set apart for such publicity in rural and urban areas?

Dr. Keskar: No specific division of rural and urban areas has been made, but the major amount will be spent on rural areas, not on urban areas.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: In answer to part (b) of the question, the hon. Minister stated that it is being done. What are the measures that have been taken by the Government up till now to take the Five Year Plan to the villages?

Dr. Keskar: During the discussion on the Supplementary Grants, at very great length we put forth the measures that we propose to undertake for publicising the Five Year Plan in the villages. If the hon. Member wants me to recapitulate them, I am prepared to give him a statement if he puts a question.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: As one coming from a village and seeing nothing, I want to know what are the measures up till now taken in the villages to popularise the Plan.

Dr. Keskar: He might not have seen in his own village. I am sorry if that has not been included for the time being, but the question is we are now only beginning the work, and there are lakhs of villages in the country. It is quite possible a number of them might not become aware immediately, but he will find that more and more progress will take place and publicity will be accelerated.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहाँ तक प्रचार का सम्बन्ध है क्या अभी प्रचार की केवल योजनाएं बन रही हैं या उनका कार्य भी आरम्भ हो गया है और अगर कार्य आरम्भ हो गया है तो इस देश के कितने गांवों में आरम्भ हुआ है ?

डा० केशकर : योजनायें भी बन रही हैं और कार्य भी आरम्भ हुआ है, दोनों काम साथ साथ हो रहे हैं क्योंकि यह कोई ऐसी चीज नहीं है कि एक योजना बने और उस पर कार्य आरम्भ हो। कार्य की जो एक साधारण योजना है वह बन गई, उसके अनुसार कार्य भी आरम्भ किया गया है, लेकिन स्थान स्थान पर, मित्र मित्र प्रान्तों में किस तरीके से काम किया जाये इसकी योजनायें बन रही हैं। अब कितने गांवों में काम शुरू हो गया है यह मैं नहीं कह सकता। बहुत मुमकिन है कि अगर मेरे मित्र कुछ दिन बाद मुझ से पूछें तो मैं उनको आंकड़े बता सकूँ।

FOREIGN AND INDIAN COMBINES

*1117. **Dr. Amla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that foreign firms which have combined with Indian firms do not start the manufacture of products from the primary stage to the final stage especially in dyes, pharmaceutical, antibiotic and engineering industries but they merely assemble imported spare parts or merely pack the bulk imported stuff in small packings as the case may be?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): I am unable to answer this question in the affirmative as the question does not refer to any specific firm or firms so affected. There are instances perhaps where Indian firms with foreign collaborators are manufacturing from intermediates in the case of chemical industries and are using some component parts made elsewhere in engineering industries. But I am unable to support a statement containing a generalisation of this nature.

Shri Gidwani: What about Question No. 1116, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I will take it up.

Dr. Amin: May I know whether it is a fact that some Indian firms which are not in a position to exist on their own against better organised indigenous concerns arrange a tie-up with foreign concerns, just to make use of the trade name of a foreign firm?

Shri Karmarkar: We are not aware of such instances, but if such instances come to our notice, we shall not encourage them.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know, Sir, if the Government have taken any steps to examine the terms under which these subsidiary agreements between foreign firms and Indian firms are entered into?

Shri Karmarkar: They are always closely scrutinised at all stages of the agreements before they are sanctioned by Government.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know what steps the Government is taking for bringing into existence the capital goods industries which will create these consumer goods industries?

Shri Karmarkar: We are taking all steps possible under the circumstances.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Is it a fact, Sir, that certain Indian firms were allowed to combine with foreign concerns to manufacture these things, while at the same time there were certain Indian firms which wanted to produce these things here, but they were not allowed?

Shri Karmarkar: It is rather a vague question, but if my hon. friend tables a question with regard to a particular industry, I shall certainly make enquiries.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know whether these subsidiary alliances into which our firms are entering with foreign firms will not be ruinous to our country?

Shri Karmarkar: There are no subsidiary alliances. They are all predominant alliances.

SYNTHETIC PETROL PLANT

*1116. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a synthetic petrol plant?

(b) What will be its cost?

(c) Where will it be located?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Government have under consideration a proposal for the establishment of a synthetic oil plant in India.

(b) and (c). The proposal is still under preliminary consideration and information on these matters will be available when up-to-date project studies are undertaken and completed.

Shri Gidwani: Are Government aware that one Dr. Saha who was Chairman of the National Planning Committee appointed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had a patent of extraction of synthetic petrol from coal on a commercial basis, and is it a fact that this patent was commercially exploited?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have no precise information on the point at present.

Shri Gidwani: Is it a fact that he approached our Government and submitted a scheme, but it was cold-shouldered?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Saha has often written letters making various proposals, some good, some not good, some bad.

Shri Gidwani: What happened to these proposals? Were they examined by experts?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All the good ones, every proposal is at first examined. This particular matter of synthetic petrol has been examined very thoroughly. In fact, it was not merely examined, but schemes were worked out, but due to various reasons, one of

them being the heavy cost of this project—it is a very, very expensive project—it could not be undertaken. I cannot say that it has been given up, but for the present it is not being undertaken.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if the proposal of Shri Vijaynanda Patnaik to make synthetic petrol from Talcher coal in Orissa will be taken into consideration?

Shri K. C. Reddy: There were various proposals regarding the starting of this synthetic oil plant, one of which has been referred to by Shri Gidwani, viz., the proposal made by Mr. Saha. The other proposal perhaps has been received from Mr. Patnaik, but they are all past history. Early in 1952 we got a project report on this industry and we could not go ahead with it because of financial considerations. The matter was left over, but the whole thing has been revived now, and preliminary considerations are going on. Very soon it may be possible for us to invite two or three firms to give us fresh project reports, and when such project reports are received, we will give further attention to this very important industry.

Seth Govind Das: With respect to...

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

CAR ASSEMBLING FIRMS

*1118. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total number of declared Car Assembling firms in India?

(b) How many of them are proposed to be closed?

(c) What are the reasons for the proposed closure?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Seven.

(b) Five out of these seven assemblers may wind up their operations by the middle of next year. The remaining two are engaged in the assembly of jeep type vehicles and will continue to do so.

(c) Government have on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission, decided to concentrate all future demands for vehicles on firms who have a manufacturing programme. The pure assemblers, therefore, have been asked to close down their operations.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether Government has any idea as to the minimum number of vehicles that will be required for an economic manufacturing unit?

Shri Karmarkar: It depends on particular types of vehicles and particular units.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: What I want to know is: what is the minimum manufacturing capacity that is required to keep the assembly lines going economically.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice about it.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether it is a fact that the high taxation on transport vehicles as well as the high taxation on petrol is a major contributory factor for a contraction in the demand for the vehicles in this country, and if so, what are the proposals that the Government are considering to obviate these difficulties?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid he is going into an argument about the whole question of this particular industry.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know the number of people that were thrown out of employment as a result of this policy and what is Government's view and what they are going to do with these unemployed people?

Shri Karmarkar: The number of people thrown out will be increasing a little progressively, but our attempt is to absorb as many of them as possible in the existing units.

Shrimati A. Kale: How many workers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have the assemblers been asked to close down

forthwith, or has some future date been given by which they have to wind up?

Shri Karmarkar: Not forthwith, but by about the middle of 1954.

BANNING OF LOCKOUTS IN TEXTILE MILL

***1120. Shri Buchhikotaiiah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to ban lock-outs in textile mills in the country was received from any organisation; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken to check the unemployment due to these lock-outs?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes. A proposal was received from the Indian National 'Textile Workers' Federation, Ahmedabad, suggesting that Government issue instructions that no textile mills should close down without previous permission of the Government.

(b) An Ordinance was promulgated on the 24th October, 1953 under which provision has been made for compensation to the labour which may be laid off or retrenched. In place of this Ordinance a Bill entitled "The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1953" has already been passed by both the Houses of Parliament and is now awaiting Assent of the President.

Shri Buchhikotaiiah: May I know the number of lock-outs in 1953, the number of workers affected, and the number of days lost?

Shri Karmarkar: At the time of the textile crisis, i.e. 21st October 1953, the number of threatened closures of textile mills was 42, and the number of workers affected 42,791. As to the actual number of workers thrown out at that time, I should like to have notice.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: In view of the fact that a large number of textile mills have already been closed, and a

large number of labourers have been thrown out of employment, may I know what proposals are under the consideration of Government to check such things in future, and what actions are being taken against those mills?

Shri Karmarkar: If I might refer to the earlier question, which is also relevant,—the actual number of workers thrown out of employment I am able to give now—a number of mills closed down, and the number of workers thrown out of employment was 14,764.

Regarding the hon. Member's question put just now, the answer is that the present Ordinance, and this Bill, when it becomes an Act, will meet with the situation, because any mill that closes down will have to compensate the workers retrenched or laid off.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that in some mills, they have closed down one shift, and if so, how far the labourers have been affected?

Shri Karmarkar: Some of them have closed down one shift; some of them have closed down two shifts, and some of them have closed down completely. As I said earlier, the number of workers affected by the closure was 14,764.

RUBBER TYRES

***1121. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps in the matter of reduction in prices of Indian-made tyres; and

(b) if so, what?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; the question of fixing fair selling prices for Indian made rubber tyres and tubes has been referred to the Tariff Commission and their report is awaited.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that Indian tyres are being marketed under four different makes, and yet

they are being produced virtually under one monopoly?

Shri Karmarkar: They are produced under different names, but regarding the monopoly, I am not aware.

Sardar Hukam Singh: So far as price and durability are concerned, how does the Indian tyre compare with that produced by these firms in their own countries?

Shri Karmarkar: Our tyres compare quite well with those produced abroad.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that though these tyres are being manufactured here, foreign tyres of the same make are being frequently used for replacement purposes, though the policy of Government is to prohibit the import of such tyres, when such tyres are being manufactured in our own country?

Shri Karmarkar: I could not follow the purport of the question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Member repeat the question?

Sardar Hukam Singh: These four companies are manufacturing tyres in our country; they have their plants in England, U.S.A., and France as well. In the beginning, when the motor cars are sold with tyres of indigenous make, their replacement is being allowed by tyres of foreign make, by the same companies. Have Government allowed these companies to import those tyres?

Shri Karmarkar: Our import policy has been that licences for the import of certain sizes of 'Giant' and other tyres not manufactured in India, are issued to the established importers only on a quota of 100 per cent. Regarding the tyres being locally produced, we are not encouraging any imports.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that 'Michelin' tyre gives double the mileage, and costs much less than a similar tyre of 34×7×10 produced here?

Shri Karmarkar: It depends on the ground on which the car is made to run. Otherwise, our tyres are perfectly satisfactory.

TITANIUM

***1122. Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether a loan has been sanctioned for the titanium products in Travancore-Cochin State from the Industrial Finance Corporation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Yes, Sir.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Is it a fact that the Industrial Finance Corporation scrutinised the accounts of the company and looked into the causes of failure?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know what the reasons for the failure are?

Shri Karmarkar: I am sorry I did not hear the word 'failure' quite well. I thought the question was whether they were considering it. The fact was that a loan for Rs. 20 lakhs was asked for. We in the Ministry supported the demand to the extent of Rs. 15 lakhs. Actually, to skip over the whole history, the matter is now under consideration. I understand that the Industrial Finance Corporation decided on the 21st November 1953, to sanction a loan of Rs. 15 lakhs against the security of the fixed assets, and an advance of Rs. 6 lakhs has been made.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know why a reduction has been made from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 6 lakhs?

Shri Karmarkar: It is not a reduction, but pending further inquiries, we have already given Rs. 6 lakhs in anticipation of the fulfilment of the whole thing.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: In view of the fact that the titanium dioxide produced in the factory is very costly,

and also in view of the fact that the factory is not working on an economic footing, may I know whether the Rs. 15 lakhs granted to the company will also provide for the setting up of a factory for the recovery of sulphuric acid?

Shri Karmarkar: Regarding the recovery of sulphuric acid, I should like to have notice.

EXPORT OF ILMENITE

*1123. **Kumari Annie Mascarene:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether license is given to the export of Ilmenite from Travancore-Cochin State to any foreign company from 1953?

(b) If so, to whom?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) M/s. Hopkin and Williams.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether tariff protection is given to the industry, and whether the export of ilmenite will increase the competition?

Shri Karmarkar: I do not think so, that the export of ilmenite has increased competition.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Have the Government got any scheme to develop this industry on a large scale, so as to satisfy the needs of the country?

Shri Karmarkar: At the present moment, in view of the Atomic Energy Act, after careful investigation and approval, Government have prescribed limits. Monazite content up to 0.1 per cent. is allowed in ilmenite meant for exports. Other types of ilmenite are being exported, because they are not considered so very crucially necessary at the moment.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Are Government aware that giving licences to these foreign companies is undoing the tariff protection given to this industry?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know why monazite is allowed to be exported when we know perfectly well that it contains uranium, thorium and other fissionable materials which can be used for atomic energy purposes.

Shri Karmarkar: This question has been very carefully considered at the highest level, and as I said earlier, only that type is allowed to be exported, which is not necessary for us. The other is being conserved.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is it not against the Atomic Energy Act, to allow the export of any such thing?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Atomic Energy Act empowers Government to prevent export; but they can issue permits or licences for limited exports, where they consider it necessary in exchange for something else which we want.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know why the export is allowed...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) ACT

*1124. **Dr. Amin:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the expressions "substantial expansion" and "new article" occurring in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act have created a lot of confusion in the absence of precise definitions?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to define precisely these two expressions or frame a set of rules explaining their meanings?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir. No specific instance was brought to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Dr. Amin: May I know the factors that are taken into consideration for deciding whether a particular expansion is a substantial expansion?

Shri Karmarkar: I think the Act is quite clear on that point, and that was the opinion of the Industries Development Council also.

SCHEME FOR ESTABLISHING TRUCK-BUILDING WORKS

*1126. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a British firm has submitted a scheme for establishing a truck-building works in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the scheme?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There are two proposals from British concerns.

(b) These are being examined.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know the names of the British concerns which have submitted these schemes?

Shri Karmarkar: The first one is Messrs. Sedan Motors Limited, (U.K.), who have made a proposal for the manufacture of heavy duty Sedan trucks. The second is from Messrs. Leyland Motors Limited.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know the estimated capital, and the site where the factory will be located?

Shri Karmarkar: That is still being considered.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether there is any Indian capital involved in it, and if so what will be its proportion?

Shri Karmarkar: There is a tie-up of these foreign firms with Indian concerns.

SINDHU RESETTLEMENT CORPORATION

*1127. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be

pleased to state the total paid-up capital of Sindhu Resettlement Corporation?

(b) What is the proportion of Government capital to the whole?

(c) What work has been done by this Corporation up till now?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Rs. 1,32,22,500 as on 31st March, 1953.

(b) 25 per cent. of the issued capital.

(c) The Corporation is developing a township at Gandhidham (Kutch) for displaced persons. They have developed the site and provided necessary civic amenities such as roads, drains, water supply etc. In addition, the Corporation have constructed one high school, three primary schools, dispensaries, mechanical workshops, an Electric Power House, and factories for manufacturing hollow blocks and R.C.C. spun pipes and poles.

4,072 houses and 446 shops have also been constructed by the Corporation for displaced persons with financial assistance from Government.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Is this Corporation self-supporting or is it running at a loss?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sir, I do not know the accounts of the Corporation—how they stand.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Does it issue any periodical reports?

Shri A. P. Jain: Obviously, every company or corporation registered under the Indian Companies Act issues periodical reports.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Is it placed on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Will the hon. Member resume his seat after putting a question?

Shri A. P. Jain: This is a private corporation in which we are shareholders.

Shri T. N. Singh: Since Government money to the extent of 25 per cent. of the issued capital is invested in this corporation, do Government care to examine their annual balance sheet and profit and loss account?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have got our representative on the Board of Directors to adequately protect our interest there.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Is it a private limited company?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am going to the next question.

IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN MADRAS

*1128. **Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an additional allotment in the Five Year Plan has been made to the Madras State for irrigation schemes?

(b) If so, what are the new schemes to be introduced in the State of Madras?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Amravathy Reservoir Project.

(ii) Vaigai Scheme.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir, the amount of this additional allotment?

Shri Hathi: For the Vaigai it is Rs. 250 lakhs and for Amravathy it is Rs. 270 lakhs.

Shri Muniswamy: How many schemes were submitted by Madras and how many were approved?

Shri Hathi: Five were proposed; two have been sanctioned.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know the total number of acres that are expected to be irrigated by these projects?

Shri Hathi: 17,000 acres for the first scheme and 15,000 acres for the other.

Shri Nanadas: Is it a fact that the composite Madras Government spent whatever the Central Government allotted before the separation of Andhra?

Shri Hathi: I will require notice for that.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know, Sir, whether this is in addition to the allotment sanctioned for major irrigation works in 1953?

Shri Hathi: This is in addition.

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1129. **Shri Ramji Verma:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total amount of loan which was not refunded by the displaced persons due to the failure of the businesses for which the loans were granted since 1952?

(b) What methods have been adopted by Government to recover those loans?

(c) Do Government enquire into the soundness of the business which an applicant proposes to undertake before granting a loan, and if so, how?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Loans granted since 1952 have not yet become repayable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes. State Governments actually distribute loans to displaced persons after making necessary enquiries in such manner as they consider suitable.

श्री राम जी वर्मा : इन में कम से कम कितने रुपये का लोन दिया गया होगा ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं समझता हूँ कि शायद सौ रुपये या इस के लगभग दिया गया होगा ।

श्री रणबल्लभ सिंह : क्या इस कर्ज की वसूली में कुर्की भी होती है ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : हाँ, कभी कभी होती भी है ।

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the total amount advanced and the interest charged?

Shri A. P. Jain: The total amount sanctioned is approximately Rs. 9.6 crores out of which Rs. 8 crores and 87 lakhs has actually been advanced. The rate of interest varies from time to time according to the rate at which the Government borrows from the market.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I wanted to know if there is any uniform scale of interest.

Shri A. P. Jain: It is a uniform rate of interest for a particular year.

DISPLACED PERSONS

*1130. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that orders have been issued by the Central Government to the Government of Bombay that there should be no fresh admissions of displaced persons for receipt of doles till all persons who are now receiving doles outside Homes and Infirmaries are admitted in Homes and Infirmaries?

(b) What is the number of such persons?

(c) Is it a fact that fresh admissions for receipt of doles are made in very hard cases and such admissions are made only when the parties agree to be sent to a Home and an Infirmary?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The orders issued have since been cancelled.

(b) About 6,800.

(c) Admissions are made in the case of persons falling under the categories listed in the statement laid on the Table of the House and they have to go to one of the Homes or Infirmaries, except in special cases. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 12.]

Shri Gidwani: The orders have been cancelled, as I understand?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes.

IMPORT OF TRACTORS

*1131. **Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many tractors have been imported into India in 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): 1,227 tractors were imported during 1952-53 and 2,318 were imported during April-September 1953.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Which were the firms which were granted licences to import tractors?

Shri Karmarkar: I have not got that information; nor is it our practice to give the names of firms.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: Are the Government aware that in view of the fact that spare parts are not available for these tractors imported, most of them after they are started become unworkable or idle?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. That is not our information. We have taken adequate care to see that spare parts are available. But if any instance has come to the hon. Member's notice, I should be grateful if he would remind us.

Shri Kasliwal: Could you say what is the total cost of these tractors imported in 1952-53 and 1953-54?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said, Sir, during 1952-53 we imported 1,227 tractors and the cost was Rs. 1,18,79,571. During 1953-54, the total number was 2,318 and the value was Rs. 1,78,21,878. This is according to the customs returns.

Shri S. N. Das: Out of the total number of tractors imported, what is the number imported on Government account and what is the number on private account?

Shri Karmarkar: For that I require notice.

Shri Meghnad Saha: What percentage of these tractors are in working condition and how many are in hospital?

Shri Karmarkar: Collection of that will involve an amount of time and labour not commensurate with the results.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: What proportion of these tractors now imported are for replacing old ones and how many are required for extension of the tractorisation work in reclaiming new land?

Shri Karmarkar: We have no information.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

*1132. **Shri B. C. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 2 asked on the 16th November, 1953 and state:

(a) whether Government have fixed ceiling grants for the Handloom Industry in each State and, if so, the amounts so fixed;

(b) on what basis these ceilings to the grants have been fixed;

(c) whether the grants allotted to various States on the schemes submitted by them are short of the ceiling grants fixed for them and, if so, the reasons for the disparity; and

(d) whether Government will place on the Table of the House a statement showing the number of schemes submitted by each State and the number of those accepted?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to paragraph 3(9) of Annexure XIII, and Annexure XV of the pamphlet "The All-India Handloom Board—A brief Survey", copies of which have been placed in the Library of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir; this is because not all the schemes submitted have been in conformity with the general principles laid down by the Board. The States concerned have been asked to send additional schemes to cover the balance.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 13.]

Shri B. C. Das: In the statement, it is mentioned that the Orissa State submitted 17 schemes of which 10 schemes have been accepted. May I know whether the Orissa Government have sent fresh schemes in place of the rejected ones?

Shri Karmarkar: We have asked the Orissa Government to submit fresh schemes, but I do not think that they have yet given them. But this I speak subject to correction.

Shri B. C. Das: In the statement I find some States have not submitted schemes. What steps have the Government taken for getting schemes from these States?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, as I said, we have circularised all the Governments to submit their schemes to cover up the whole amount that has been allotted to them.

Shri B. C. Das: May I know whether any time-limit has been fixed for submission of fresh schemes after which the grants allotted to a State would lapse?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. I do not think that a time-limit has been fixed. Of course, we have asked them to reply as early as possible. But there is no question of the grants lapsing; we want the States to utilise that amount.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In the statement I find that out of 13 schemes submitted by the Travancore-Cochin State, only 7 have been sanctioned, and there is no entry in the remarks column. May I know what is happening to the 6 schemes?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, those schemes have not been accepted. That is why there are no remarks.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: May I know whether these schemes are for the protection or extension of the handloom industry and whether the grants

that are being paid to the States are refundable or would lapse?

Shri Karmarkar: The amounts of the grants that are made are placed at the disposal of the State Governments for use by them in accordance with the schemes that have been approved by us.

राष्ट्रपति मार्ट के पास सरकारी इमारतें

*११३३. श्री बावसाह गुप्त : क्या निर्माण, गृह-व्यवस्था तथा रसद मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) राष्ट्रपति मार्ट के पास नई सरकारी इमारतें किस प्रयोजन से बनाई गई हैं; तथा

(ख) इन के निर्माण पर क्या व्यय हुआ है ?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) To provide accommodation for 15 married constables and 2 married Head-constables of Police attached to the President's Estate.

(b) About Rs. 60,000.

Shri Badshah Gupta: When were they completed and why are they lying vacant now?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I understand that they are not yet complete for occupation; some work is still required to be done.

Shri Badshah Gupta: May I know what is the work that has to be done still?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think some fittings and electrical installations.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF KASHMIR

*1134. **Shri Kakkan:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any resolution passed by the National Conference workers at the Convention held at Pulwama; and

595 P.S.D.

(b) if so, what reply has been given by the Government of India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri (Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). No, but they have seen press reports of this resolution.

Shri Kasliwal: I want to know where is Pulwama, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He can enquire elsewhere.

LOAN TO ANDHRA STATE

*1135. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to give a loan of five crores of rupees to Andhra State is under consideration;

(b) whether a list of schemes proposed to be undertaken has been submitted to the Planning Commission; and

(c) if so, whether the list will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether this financial assistance is in addition to the assistance that is proposed to be given under the proposals of the Bhattacharya Committee sponsored by the Finance Ministry?

Shri Hathi: This is in accordance with the programme of the Planning Commission to have irrigation schemes in the scarcity areas.

SALT

*1136. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the President, Madras Provincial Salt In-

dustrialists Association regarding salt industry in Madras State and the need for relaxation of the standardisation measures where there are no facilities to export salt to Calcutta or abroad or to industrial concerns locally; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the representation?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) Memorandum dated the 11th November, 1953, has been received from the Madras Provincial Salt Industrialists Association. The Memorandum includes *inter alia* a request for the reduction of the sodium chloride content of salt intended for human consumption from 94 per cent. to 85 per cent. The Memorandum does not, however, refer to the 'need for relaxation of the standardisation measures where there are no facilities to export salt to Calcutta or abroad or to industrial concerns locally'.

(b) Regarding the point in their Memorandum about provision of facilities for export of salt outside the country and exemption of such salt from the levy of establishment charges, necessary action has been taken and the Association informed. As to the other points, Government have under consideration the requests made regarding (a) revision of 10-acre concession to small manufacturers, (b) regulation of overproduction, and (c) revision of system of maintaining reserves in factories. Regarding the remaining items, *viz.* relating to quality control, levy of cess on salt etc. Government feel that there is no ground for altering their present policy.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: As part of the salt industry in the South functions more or less as a cottage industry, what effect will Government's present measures have on that cottage industry?

Shri R. G. Dubey: As has been explained on a previous occasion, the position regarding the unlicensed manufacturers has changed recently. Now the tendency that has crept into

the industry is that the big dealers take advantage of the poverty and contiguous lands are brought under their control, just to evade salt tax.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Have Government any idea of the extent of unemployment and under-employment in those areas which these measures will cause?

Shri R. G. Dubey: No, Sir; for the present there is no such case.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what steps Government propose to take in order to protect the indigent salt manufacturer who is always under the thumb of the landlord?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): The hon. Member has referred to a matter of detail, Sir. With regard to this I would like to say that the policy of the Government is to protect the small-scale manufacturer. The small salt manufacturer was allowed to manufacture salt without licence to a certain extent after the abolition of the salt duty in 1947. That policy is being continued. But certain abuses have crept in and the Government is giving active consideration as to what steps they should take to remove those abuses to save the small-scale industry in such a way that it does not, at the same time, come into conflict with the licensed salt works.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Arising out of the answer given to the supplementary, Sir, may I know whether Government is aware of the fact that small-scale salt producers in Visakhapatnam city have been thrown out and the licence was given to a manufacturer who has a monopoly in that area?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I would require notice to answer that question, Sir.

पटसन पर निर्यात-शुल्क

*११३७. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान गनी एसोसिएशन के श्री राम सुन्दर कनोरिया

के उस वक्तव्य की ओर गया है जो उन्होंने २१ जुलाई, १९५३, को दिया था और जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था कि निर्यात-शुल्क में घटौती किये जाने पर भी भारतीय पटसन विदेशी बाजार में पैर जमाने में असमर्थ रहा है; तथा

(ख) यदि हां तो इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir. However even if such a statement had been made in July, 1953, it would have no bearing on facts as they are today after the reduction in the export duty on Hessian from Rs. 275 per ton to Rs. 120.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर एक्सपोर्ट ड्यूटी हमारे एक्सपोर्ट ट्रेड को हानि पहुँचाती है तो हम उस ड्यूटी को हटा क्यों न दें ?

श्री करमरकर : जितनी आवश्यकता थी उतनी हम ने हटा दी है और इसका नतीजा यह हुआ है कि हमारा एक्सपोर्ट ट्रेड बढ़ गया है ।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : समाचार पत्रों में जो यह खबर शायद हुई है कि हिन्दुस्तान फारेन जूट मार्केट को खो रहा है यह ठीक है या नहीं ?

श्री करमरकर : यह ठीक नहीं है ।

Pandit S. C. Mishra: May I know whether this relates to raw jute or to jute products, and, if it relates to jute products, whether before giving any concession in export duty the Government took into consideration the huge difference between the price of the material consumed and the price of the goods charged?

Shri Karmarkar: I would like to know the exact point.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: Whether the fall in exports relates to raw jute or to jute products and, if it relates to jute products.....

Shri Karmarkar: It relates to jute products; we are not now exporting raw jute.

Mr. Speaker: Let him finish. I think we can now proceed to the next question. He may put it clearly.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: I wanted to know whether the fall in the exports relates to the raw jute or to jute products.

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, we are not exporting any raw jute. The reduction in duty is in respect of jute goods.

Pandit S. C. Mishra rose —

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed one question.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: Half has not been answered, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Let him put the other half.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: Arising out of that answer, Sir, may I know whether before making a reduction in the export duty, do Government take into consideration the huge difference in the price that is charged for the finished jute product and the price of the raw material that is doled out to the producers?

Shri Karmarkar: This also involves two answers, Sir. Firstly, the export duty was fixed with this view; because at that time we felt that the disparity between the foreign price obtained by local manufacturers and their cost of production was great—a huge gap that had to be filled up by way of an increase in the export duty. Later on, on consideration, we felt that a reduction was necessary and therefore we reduced it and that has helped the export of our jute goods. That is my answer to the first part.

Does my hon. friend require the answer to the second part?

VISIT OF MAHARAJA OF BHUTAN

*1138. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Maharaja and Maharani of Bhutan have agreed to visit India in response to the invitation of the Government of India on the occasion of Republic Day Celebrations on the 26th January 1954?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): The Maharaja of Bhutan is arriving in Delhi on the 13th of January, 1954, in response to an invitation from the Government of India. He will be visiting a few other places and then come back to Delhi for the Republic Day Celebrations.

Shri Bheekha Bhai: May I know the places that will be visited by the Maharaja of Bhutan?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: He will visit Bharatpur, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Sanchi and other places.

MANDI ROCK SALT MINES

*1139. **Shri Hem Raj:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the amounts that were sanctioned under the Five Year Plan for the development of Mandi Rock Salt Mines for the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54?

(b) How much out of these sanctioned amounts have so far been utilised for their development?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): (a) The Planning Commission included the Scheme in the Plan and provided for the following amounts:

1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Nil.	Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 80 lakhs

However, the sanctioned Budget Grants, for the Development of the Mandi Salt Mines are as follows:

1951-52	1952-53	1953-54
Nil.	Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1 lakh (token)

(b) The sums spent are as follows:

1951-52	1952-53	1953-54. (Up to end of October 1953).
Nil.	Rs. 35,424-13-6	Rs. 19,515-13-6

Shri Hem Raj: May I know what results have been so far obtained from the coal drilling operations?

Shri R. G. Dubey: So far attempts were made to have the coal drilling operations on three occasions, but, unfortunately, due to certain difficulties, the boring had to be stopped last year. In December, 1952, the drilling was undertaken and then it went on up to the middle of July. By that time there were 3 bore-holes but in one case the casing broke down, in another case other difficulties come up and now a new programme has been undertaken by Government and the work is in progress.

Shri Hem Raj: By what time will the programme be finished?

Shri R. G. Dubey: It is difficult to say, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

STEEL ALLOTMENT

*1100. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether allotments for the fourth quarter of 1953 in respect of Steel has been made;

(b) the total ton of Steel allotted for the fourth quarter of 1953 and how it compares with that of the fourth quarter of 1952; and

(c) the quantity of iron and steel so far exported in 1953?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2,54,135 tons of steel were allotted for the fourth quarter of 1953 as against 2,47,290 tons allotted for the fourth quarter of 1952. Besides, bars, rods and light structurals

are now obtainable without permits from the Registered Stockists.

(c) 12,220 tons were exported during the period from January to September, 1953.

ALUMINIUM

*1104. **Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps being taken to encourage the opening of aluminium foundries, dye-castings and extrusions, and to encourage the use of indigenous aluminium in the building programmes of Government?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): There exists some capacity in the country for aluminium foundry, die-castings and extrusions. The development of this industry is in the hands of private enterprise; and, whenever proposals are received for the installation of additional capacity, Government consider them on merits and render every assistance to all sound schemes.

It is not clear what the hon. Member means by the latter part of his question namely encouraging the use of indigenous aluminium in the building programmes of Government.

BATTERY INDUSTRY

*1105. **Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the rated capacity and actual production of the National Carbon Co. (India) Ltd., Estrella Batteries Ltd., Sunbeam Electrical Industries, Ltd., and Solar Batteries and Flashlights Ltd., in 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) whether Government are aware of the complaints of the Indian units of the dry battery industry that they are going to be squeezed out of existence because of the competition of the powerful foreign unit in the industry; and

(c) if so, what measures Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is laid

on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 14.]

(b) Such complaints are often made.

(c) Government have in mind the recommendations of the Tariff Commission in regard to the maintenance of healthy competition amongst the various manufacturing units as well as the avoidance of the emergence of a monopoly if competition was allowed to transgress legitimate limits.

BICYCLES INDUSTRY

*1106. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Development Council for bicycles Industry has been constituted?

(b) If so, who are the Members of the Council?

(c) What are its main functions?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A copy of the notification containing the names of the Members, and the functions of the Council is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 15.]

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENTS

*1107. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present sources of supply of heavy electrical equipments, motors and transformers;

(b) the new concerns to whom manufacturing licenses have been given in 1952 or are proposed to be given during 1953;

(c) the percentage of India's present demand that is met by the production of the existing factories; and

(d) the approximate date when the State-owned factory is likely to go into production?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Both from within the country and from abroad.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 16.]

(c) Approximately 23 per cent.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the date at this stage as negotiations for the installation of the factory are still in progress.

METALLURGICAL COAL

***1108. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the average quantity of metallurgical coal raised annually from the Indian Coal mines and the average quantity that is used annually for metallurgical purposes;

(b) the steps taken by Government to enforce the provision of the Metallurgical Coal Conservation Act for the conservation of metallurgical coal in India;

(c) the annual approximate quantity of metallurgical coal exported from India; and

(d) whether permission for opening any new mine of metallurgical coal has been given after the Metallurgical Coal Conservation Act was passed?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The average quantity of metallurgical coal raised annually during the years 1950-52 is 13.4 million tons and that used for metallurgical purposes 3.6 million tons.

(b) Apparently, the Member has the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952, in mind. A statement showing the steps taken by Government for the conservation of the metallurgical coal is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 17.]

(c) The quantity of metallurgical coal exported from India during the last 3 years is approximately as follows:—

1950	... 96,831 tons.
1951	... 4,43,261 tons.
1952	... 8,41,799 tons.

(d) No.

INDIAN NEWS REVIEW FILMS

***1109. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the total rent paid by the cinema houses of the State of Bihar in purchasing the approved films of Indian News Review in the year 1952-53?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Cinema houses do not 'purchase' approved films; they only pay rentals for exhibiting approved documentary films and newsreels on the basis of contracts between the exhibitor and the Government of India. No separate rentals are received for the exhibition of Indian News Reviews as such. The total rental received from exhibitors in the State of Bihar during 1952-53 amounted to Rs. 1,20,000.

RADIO COMPONENTS

***1119. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding the existing rates of duty on import of radio components and raw materials on the one hand and complete radio sets on the other has been implemented and whether the anomalies referred to therein have been removed?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Except for a few special types of receivers, including multi-valve sets, which are imported, all radio sets are at present assembled in the country. Therefore, the anomaly between the rates of duty on components and complete receivers exists only to a negligible extent.

Also there is at present a certain amount of manufacture of component parts. Any downward revision of the duty on components might, therefore, take away the incentive to progress with their manufacture.

SINDRI FERTILIZER FACTORY

*1140. Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:

(a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that during the first annual verification of stock a shortage of about 30,000 tons of coal, coke and gypsum worth several lakhs of rupees was detected in the stores of the Sindri Fertilizer Factory?

(b) If so, has an enquiry been made by Government?

(c) What steps have been taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such losses?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The first annual verification of the stock of raw materials disclosed certain apparent shortages of this order.

(b) and (c). A Committee of senior officers has been appointed by the Board of Directors to make a thorough enquiry into the causes of such shortages, to review the present arrangements for recording the receipts, issues and periodical stock verification and to recommend the steps to be taken to put them on a satisfactory basis. The technical member of the Committee has already submitted his report. This report which was drawn up after a scientific re-verification of the stocks of coal and gypsum does not confirm the existence of the shortages that were originally assessed. On the other hand, the actual shortages of coal and gypsum were found to be much smaller, being only a very small percentage of the total quantities used which could be considered as reasonable having regard to such factors as windage, transit and bedding down. As regards coke, a check of the stock has not been possible but calculations based on the known production of ammonia indicate that coke stocks have also been underestimated when making the

original report of shortage. The position in this regard must, however, be physically checked at the exhaustion of coke dumps. This technical report will be examined by the Board of Directors who will consider what further action, if any, is to be taken.

SIRKA COLLIERIES

*1141. Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:

(a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether a huge stock of slack coal has been piled at the pit-mouths of Sirka Collieries in Bihar?

(b) If so, what was the total tonnage of these stocks on the 31st October, 1953?

(c) What are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b). The stock of slack coal at Sirka Colliery on the 31st October 1953 amounted to about 7,000 tons; in addition there were about 7,000 tons of run-of-mine coal. These stocks, which represent less than one month's raisings of the colliery cannot be considered as unduly high as compared to the overall stocks in Bengal and Bihar coalfields as a whole, as also stocks of other individual collieries.

(c) Due to increased production without any corresponding increase in despatches. Taking the figures up to the 30th September, the Colliery produced about 10,000 tons more this year than last year. Whereas the despatches were practically the same.

FORWARD MARKETS COMMISSION

*1142. Shri Bhagwat Jha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of commodities taken up by the "Forward Markets Commission" for stabilising prices;

(b) whether it is a fact that since the operation of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, the number of associations dealing in forward market has considerably increased; and

(c) the number of associations which have notified the Commission about their dealing in forward market?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) 68.

SAMPLE SURVEY OF UNEMPLOYMENT

*1143. **Shri R. S. Lal:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state in how many places in Uttar Pradesh Sample Survey of unemployment was carried out?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Unemployment Survey was carried out by the National Sample Survey Directorate in the following 5 towns in Uttar Pradesh viz. Rampur, Kanpur, Sambhal, Benaras and Gonda.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING LOAN

*1144. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the amount asked by the Government of Assam for Industrial Housing Scheme in 1952-53 and 1953-54; and

(b) the amounts sanctioned?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The Government of Assam has not asked for any assistance under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme during 1952-53 or 1953-54.

MYSORE IRON AND STEEL WORKS

*1145. { **Shri Wodeyar:**
Shri Nanadas:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present surplus stock of pig iron of all grades in Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravathi; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to dispose of the present surplus?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 24,790 tons as on 1st December, 1953.

(b) Government have decided to make available to consumers the pig iron produced by the Mysore Iron and Steel Works (except the pure charcoal variety) at the same price as that of the pig iron produced by the other producers by bringing it within the common distribution pool.

RETRENCHMENT IN A. I. R.

{ **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
*1146. { **Shri Veeraswamy:**
Shri R. S. Lal:
Shri Bhagwat Jha:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some fifty-one officers belonging to class II Central Services in All India Radio, are being retrenched; and

(b) whether it is a fact that among the said fifty-one persons there are some who have only lately been informed in writing that the Union Public Service Commission has approved their continuation in service?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) 22 Programme Assistants who were employed in All India Radio have been served with notices for termination of their services. The circumstances under which this retrenchment had to take place are as follows:

Programme Assistants in All India Radio have been recruited in various ways. The post has been converted into a Class II post which means that recruitment must be made through the Union Public Service Commission. In order to regularise the cadre the Union Public Service Commission was asked to scrutinize the cases of all Programme Assistants. The Union Public Service Commission after carefully going through the cases of all the employees categorised them according to merits. The question of the permanent strength of the cadre at the various stations was also examined in detail and it was found

that the number of persons employed was much larger than the number required by All India Radio. The Union Public Service Commission was asked to examine the question of retrenching the surplus staff. This was done by a regular departmental promotion committee with a member of the Union Public Service Commission. In accordance with their recommendations 22 Programme Assistants were served with notices for termination of their services. I might also say, Sir, that all these are temporary employees. An urgent reason for regularisation of the cadre of Programme Assistants was the necessity of putting on some permanent footing the main staff of whom a majority were continuing for a long time in an uncertain and temporary position. This could not be done without a complete scrutiny by Union Public Service Commission and determination of the strength of the cadre.

(b) No, Sir. This is not a fact. None of the 22 Programme Assistants who have been served with notices had been informed either orally or in writing that the Union Public Service Commission, had approved their continuation. On the contrary a large number amongst them had been totally rejected by the Commission as unfit for retention in service.

EVACUEE PROPERTY ACT

499. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what fee was fixed as being payable to the Custodian under Section 51 of Act XXXI of 1950. Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950?

(b) What is the position in the different States?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). At present a uniform fee equivalent to 10 per cent. of gross realisations made from evacuee property is charged as administration charges.

595 P.S.D.

HANDLOOMS

500. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of people working on handlooms in 1952-53;

(b) the total production of handlooms during that period and its value; and

(c) the value of yarn consumed in the production of handloom cloth during the period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is estimated that 12.8 lakh persons are working as whole time weavers on cotton yarn.

(b) Approximately 1,167 million yards and its value is estimated to be rupees 83 crores.

(c) Rs. 48 crores (approximately).

PASSPORTS

501. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of Indian Nationals who applied for passports, on invitations from cultural, trade-union and other organisations in U.S.S.R. and the Peoples Republic of China in 1952-53 and up to the 31st October, 1953 and the number who were refused passports?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): As a record of the issue of passports is not kept on the basis of the objects for which they are applied for, it is not possible to furnish the desired information.

RAW MATERIALS (IMPORTS)

504. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the industries which still have to depend mainly on imported raw materials but whose manufactured goods are exported; and

(b) the names of industries which were dependent on imported raw materials before and those who have not to depend on that now?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is attached which, however, is not exhaustive. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 18.]

CASHEW-NUT INDUSTRY

505. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total capital invested in the Cashew-nut Industry in India;

(b) the wage bills paid and the profits made by the Industry in 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953;

(c) the average yearly wages per male and female worker during the above years;

(d) the number of youths below the age of 16 employed in the Industry during the above years; and

(e) what is the quantity of tin sanctioned to the Cashew-nut factories, if any, during the above years?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and, as far as may be available, will be laid on the Table of the House, in due course.

(e) A statement giving the information is attached. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 19.]

CEMENT

506. Shri Dabhi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual production of cement during the year 1952-53;

(b) the names of the places where cement factories are situated and the annual production of each of these factories; and

(c) the quantity of cement imported into India during the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 3.57 million tons.

(b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 20.]

(c) 17,166 tons, 924 tons and 1,498 tons respectively.

CYCLE FACTORIES

507. Shri L. N. Mishra: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many of the cycle factories in India are foreign concerns and how many are Indian concerns?

(b) What are their names?

(c) Where are they located?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). All the bicycle factories in India are Indian concerns; some of them, however, have foreign collaboration. A statement giving the names of firms, their foreign collaborators, and their location is attached. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 21.]

ASSAULTS ON C. P. W. D. OFFICERS

508. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Labour Welfare Officers attached to the C.P.W.D., regarding maltreatment and assault by C.P.W.D. Officers and Contractors since 1947 (Division-wise and year-wise);

(b) the number of cases registered with the Police;

(c) the number of cognizable cases put up in the Courts;

(d) the number of convictions; and

(e) whether any compensation has been granted to the victims?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) A statement containing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 22.]

- (b) 2.
(c) Nil.
(d) Nil.
(e) No.

HEAVY INDUSTRIES

509. **Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of the Central Government for financing the heavy industries in India;

(b) the quota of production undertaken by the respective industries;

(c) the reasons for the fall in the production, if there is any; and

(d) whether Government have taken any steps in controlling the production?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). Three statements are attached. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 23.]

OFFICERS IN CENTRAL WATER AND POWER COMMISSION

510. **Shri Ramji Verma:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the names and qualifications of officers who joined the Central Water and Power Commission as class III officers and are working as class I officers?

(b) How many of these officers were deputed to foreign countries for higher studies and training at public expense?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and power (Shri Hathi): (a)—

S. No.	Names	Designation	Qualifications
1.	Shri S. Narayana swamy.	Assistant Secretary (Water Wing)	B. A. (Hons.)
2.	Shri R. K. Behl	Superintendent (W. W.)	B. A.
3.	Shri S. Swayambu	Project Officer (Power Wing)	B. Sc. Cert. of Prof. in Elec. Tech. I. I. Sc. A. M. I. E. E.
4.	Shri V. R. Raghavan	Project Officer (Power Wing)	M. A. Cert. of Prof. in Elec. Tech. I. I. Sc. A. M. I. E. E. (India); Member A. I. E. E.
5.	Shri C. K. V. Rao	Junior Project Officer (P. W.)	B. E. Cert. of Prof. in Elec. Tech. (I. I. Sc.)
6.	Shri M. B. P. Sarathy	Junior Project Officer (P. W.)	B. Sc. B. E.
7.	Shri B. C. Sanyal	—do—	A. M. E. E.; B. E. E.; A. M. I. E. (India)
8.	Shri R. K. Ganguli	—do—	B. Sc., B. So. (Eng.)
9.	Shri K. Mrityunjayan	—do—	B. A., B. E. (Elec.)
10.	Shri R. K. Sen	—do—	A. M. E. E., B. E. E.; A. M. I. E.
11.	Shri C. Chakraborti	—do—	M. E. E. Passed City of Guilds Exam. in Elec. Engg. Practice.

(b) None

the construction of new roads in Tripura?

LAND ACQUIRED IN TRIPURA

511. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many acres of land have been acquired in Tripura from 1950 to 1953 so far?

(b) How many acres have been acquired for the rehabilitation of displaced persons and how many for

(c) have Government paid compensation in all cases?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

वर्तन

५१२. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५१-५२ तथा १९५२-५३ के वर्षों में भारत से कितने पीतल, एल्युमिनियम तथा सिलवर के वर्तन का निर्यात हुआ ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Information required is not available as exports of brass, aluminium and silver utensils are not recorded separately in official statistics. The figures of exports of brass and copper manufactures available, which include exports of brass utensils, are as follows:—

*July-December 1952 460 tons.

January-December 1953 976 tons.

*Statistics for January-June 1952 are not available.

PASSPORTS

513. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for passport from Purnea to East Pakistan and the number of passports issued up to the 30th November, 1953 this year; and

(b) the number of passports issued

- (i) for agricultural purposes;
- (ii) to the labourers;
- (iii) to services; and
- (iv) for study?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) There were 1,287 applications and 893 passports were issued.

(b) (i) 69.

(ii) 34.

(iii) 14.

(iv) 63.

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

2469

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 18th December, 1953.

*The House met at Half Past One
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

2-30 P.M.

**MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF
STATES**

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Council of States:—

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Prevention of Disqualification (Parliament and Part C States Legislatures) Bill, 1953, which has been passed as amended by the Council of States at its sitting held on the 16th December, 1953.”

PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION (PARLIAMENT AND PART C STATES LEGISLATURES) BILL.

Secretary: Sir, I beg to lay the Prevention of Disqualification (Parliament and Part C States Legislatures) Bill 1953, as passed by the Council of States, on the Table of the House.

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**REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER
FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES—contd.**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. Kailas Nath Katju on the 17th December, 1953, namely:—

“That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1952 be taken into consideration.”

श्री कजरोल्कर (बम्बई नगर—उत्तर-रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ): अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मैंने बताया कि सीराष्ट्र के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर शेवर भाई ने इस बारे में जो कहा है वह मैं सभा भवन के सामने पढ़ना चाहता हूँ :

[SARDAR HUKAM SINGH in the Chair]

“(a) Recruitment hereafter in every cadre of the services and at every stage of promotions should be confined to Scheduled Castes candidates. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be considered together for this purpose. Age limit should also be relaxed by 5 years in their case. No recruitment of non-Scheduled Castes and non-Scheduled Tribes should be permitted until the overall ratios in all services fixed for these Communities are attained. It is only when Scheduled Castes candidates are not available that recruitment of non-Scheduled Castes persons should be made.

[श्री कजरोल्कर]

(b) In considering the question of promotion, if a Scheduled Castes candidate is available in the next below cadre, he should be promoted whatever his rank in the list, provided he is otherwise suitable. This will mean a little out of the way promotion. A second promotion to the next higher cadre to the same person would not be given out of turn within 5 years unless it otherwise becomes due to him in ordinary course.

(c) As regards qualifications of the Scheduled Castes candidates, the qualifications should be fixed separately "Caste" candidates and should be as low as possible, keeping the minimum requirements of the administration in view. *There will be a certain amount of sacrifice of administrative efficiency, but Government has decided that this is the lesser evil.* For technical posts, the reduction in qualifications will be limited. Thus for recruitment of Deputy Engineers, at least an Engineering graduate is required, but in that case if a Scheduled Caste engineering graduate is available, he should be preferred to another candidate with the highest qualifications. For purely administrative services, e.g. Mahalkaris or Mamlatdars, a Scheduled Caste non-graduate may be taken provided he shows average intelligence. In order that efficiency of the State or future prospects of the individual selected do not suffer, the person so recruited should be given training at Government expense. Further training for existing Scheduled Castes personnel to make them eligible for promotion should also be undertaken by Government as soon as possible.

(d) In connection with selection posts, the Services Department should prepare a list of selection posts that would fall vacant in the

ordinary course at least a year in advance and the Scheduled Castes personnel otherwise eligible for promotion except for the condition of selection *should be coached up at Government expense*, so that when an opportunity for selection arises, they can be considered along with others.

(e) Personal servants of Ministers, Secretaries, Heads of Departments and Gazetted Officers should *invariably* be recruited from Scheduled Castes.

(f) Arrangements should be made for a coaching class or classes as the need arises for equipping Scheduled Castes candidates for clerical and other services. This arrangement must be made on a whole-time basis, so that training can be intensive.

(g) All recruiting authorities are informed that the percentages for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes fixed by Government apply not only to permanent set-up, but to work-charged establishments and municipalities also. Government grants to municipalities would be conditional upon their carrying out the above condition.

(h) Cases of absorption of Scheduled Castes and Backward Class candidates who have been rendered jobless on closure of ration shops, Saurashtra Industrial Co-operative Society etc. should be considered in the light of above principles.

(i) While advertising posts, the recruiting authority should carefully follow the instructions laid down in this Resolution and it should be mentioned in any advertisement that persons other than Scheduled Castes will be considered only when Scheduled Castes candidates with minimum qualifications are not available.

In cases in which recruitment is made through the Public Service Commission, the Departments should state the relaxation to be made in the qualifications in respect of Scheduled Castes candidates while sending requisitions for filling up posts. In all other cases, recruiting authorities should similarly mention the qualifications required for Scheduled Castes candidates in advertisements etc. which may be issued by them.

All concerned should see that the above principles and policies are carried out scrupulously. Any non-observance thereof in any service would be viewed with serious displeasure."

जब मैं इसके बारे में अपने मित्र श्री बलवन्त राय महता के साथ चर्चा कर रहा था...

Mr. Chairman: I would request hon. Members to see that there is less of noise. The hon. Member is not clearly audible.

श्री कजरोल्कर : जब मैं अपने मित्र श्री बलवन्त राय महता से इस के बारे में बातचीत कर रहा था और सौराष्ट्र के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर धेवर भाई के बारे में अभिनन्दन की बात की थी तो मरे मित्र श्री बलवन्त राय महता ने कहा कि "कजरोल्कर भाई, सौराष्ट्र तो महात्मा गांधी, सरदार वल्लभ भाई पटेल और ठक्कर बापा की प्रेरणा से चलता है।" इस पर मैं विचार करता हूँ कि एक बी० स्टेट महात्मा गांधी की प्रेरणा से चलती है तो क्या हमारी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू की प्रेरणा से नहीं चलना चाहिये ? और बी० स्टेट कोई उदाहरण दे, उस से पहले तो हमारी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को सब स्टेट को यह उदाहरण देना चाहिये।

हमारी सरकार ने सरविसिज के बारे में कुछ परसेटेंज तो रखा है, मैं इस के लिये धन्यवाद देता हूँ। हमारी गवर्नमेंट की सदेच्छा तो हमारे लिये है, लेकिन

पूरी सरविस हमारे हरिजन भाइयों को मिलती है या नहीं वह भी देखने का उन का काम होना चाहिये। इस समय पर मुझे लोमड़ी और सारस की कथा याद आती है। आप को मालूम होगा कि लोमड़ी ने सारस को अपने घर को खाने को बुलाया था, तो उस ने ऐसे बरतन में उस को खाने को दिया कि उस का मुँह उस में नहीं जा सका। फिर बाद में वह पूछे कि कैसा खाना तुम को लगा तो वह बेचारा क्या बोले। तो उस ने चुपचाप बोल दिया कि बाबा ठीक है। वैसी ही हालत आज हमारे लोगों की है। हमारे लिये जो कुछ भी सुविधाएं रखी जाती हैं, जो कुछ भी हमारे लिये हमारी गवर्नमेंट कछ आनैस्टली करना चाहती है, वह हम नहीं पा सकते हैं, वह लोमड़ी-सारस के माफ़क हमारे मुँह के अन्दर आता नहीं है। इसलिये हमारी गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना है कि हमारे लिये जो भी सुविधाएं आप देते हों, वह हम को पूरी पूरी मिल पाती हैं या नहीं, यह भी देखने का काम आप अधिकारियों का है।

शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के वास्ते स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स कुल २ करोड़, ५६ लाख, ८३ हजार, ३१९ रुपये खर्च करती है जो कि मैं समझता हूँ कि बिल्कुल अपर्याप्त है और मैं आप के सामने प्राविन्स वाइज फीगर पेश करूँगा जिस से पता लगेगा कि एक हरिजन के ऊपर अमुक स्टेट में कितना खर्च आता है। बिहार में एक हरिजन के ऊपर पांच आने खर्च आता है, बम्बई में एक रुपया खर्च होता है, मद्रास में डेढ़ रुपया खर्च आता है, पंजाब में चार आने, उत्तर प्रदेश में आठ आने, बंगाल में ढाई आने, हैदराबाद में सबा आने, मध्य प्रदेश में ढाई आने, सौराष्ट्र साढ़े तीन रुपये, द्राबनकोर-कोचीन एक रुपया, वेहली में आठ आने, हिमाचल प्रदेश में एक रुपया, कच्छ में सात आने और मध्य प्रदेश साली तीन पैसे, एक आना भी पूरा नहीं। इन फ़ीगर्स से आप को

[श्री कजरोल्कर]

पता चल जायगा कि हरिजनों को दी जाने वाली आर्थिक सहायता कितनी कम और नाकाफ़ी है और मैं मांग करता हूँ कि आप इस आर्थिक सहायता को और अधिक बढ़ाये।

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member to conclude now.

श्री कजरोल्कर : मेरा कहना यह है कि पांच करोड़ की आबादी पर पर कैपिटल वर्क आउट करने पर केवल आठ घाने आता है, जो कि बिल्कुल कम और अपर्याप्त है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस रकम को बढ़ाकर कम से कम पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपया करना चाहिये।

हमारे श्रीकान्त भाई ने शेड्यूल्ड का ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के बारे में जो रिपोर्ट दी है, उस की बहुत सी बातों के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता था लेकिन अब समय नहीं है। मैं सिर्फ एक बात की तरफ आप का ध्यान दिलाऊंगा। वह एक जगह पर लिखते हैं।

"For reasons of economy, some of my office work is being done in the Ministry of Home Affairs. This arrangement has not proved satisfactory in so far as the expeditious disposal of work is concerned. I have, therefore, asked for more staff in order to make my office a self-contained unit and to cope with the work which is going on increasing gradually and is bound to increase further with the creation of regional offices."

इसके बारे में मेरी प्रार्थना है कि कम से कम एक एक प्राविन्स में रीजनल कमिश्नर होना चाहिये और उस के नीचे एक भीड़ अफसर रहना चाहिये, ताकि जब रीजनल आफ़िसर दौरे पर बाहर जाय, तो यह न हो कि सिवाय एक क्लर्क के उस के दफ़तर में और कोई मौजूद न हो और सब काम अनडिस्पोज़्ड

पड़ा रहे, इसलिए मैं एक बार फिर प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि हर एक प्राविन्स में एक रीजनल अफसर रखना चाहिये।

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Members must have seen that there are so many Members anxious to speak on this subject. Opportunity, in the first instance, has to be given to Members of Scheduled Castes of course. There are others also who must be given some time to participate in this discussion. So I suggest that there should be a time-limit of ten minutes for each Member. In that case, we will be able to accommodate a good number. If the House agrees I will confine to that limit.

Several Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : सभापति जी, मैं आप का बहुत शुक्रगुजार हूँ कि आप ने मुझे इस विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, लेकिन दस मिनट के अन्दर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त नहीं कर सकूंगा। भाई कजरोल्कर जी ने करीब पच्चीस मिनट ले लिये, मैं चाहता हूँ कि मुझे भी कुछ ज्यादा समय बोलने के लिये दिया जाय।

यह जो श्रीकान्त जी की शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के बारे में रिपोर्ट है, इस में उन की उन्नति करने के लिए कई सुझाव दिये गये हैं और मैं मानता हूँ कि वे बहुत उपयोगी सुझाव हैं, लेकिन मुश्किल की बात तो यह है कि गवर्नमेंट उन पर अमल नहीं करती, खाली मूली इस तरह की लम्बी चौड़ी बातें तो बनाते हैं, लेकिन उन पर अमल कुछ नहीं करते और जब तक सरकार द्वारा उन सुझावों पर अमल नहीं किया जाता, तब तक हम अछूतों की दशा में कोई सुधार होने वाला नहीं है। महात्मा गांधी के प्रयत्नों के बावजूद और देश में कांग्रेस राज्य होने के बाद भी हमारा

अवस्था पहले जैसी है, हम उसी दयनीय और शोचनीय अवस्था में मनुष्यों के समान नहीं बल्कि जानवरों के समान जीवन व्यतीत कर रहे हैं और समाज में हम को स्थान नहीं मिलता है। गांधी जी के मरने के बाद तो अब कोई दूसरा नेता भी नहीं रह गया है जो उन की दशा सुधारने के हेतु प्रचार करे और सरकार पर जोर डाले। डाक्टर काटजू कहते हैं कि हमें समाज में हमारा उपयुक्त स्थान मिलना चाहिये, श्री जगजीवन राम भी कहते हैं कि यह जातिपांति और छद्मछूत का झगड़ा मिट जाना चाहिये, लेकिन बात तो दरअसल यह है कि खाली बात कह देने भर से तो यह काम हो नहीं जायेगा। इस के लिये तो बाकायदा स्कीम होनी चाहिये, कोई निश्चित प्रोग्राम होना चाहिये और उस के अनुसार प्रचार होना चाहिये और अमल होना चाहिये। यह ठीक है कि नौकरी में हमारी संख्या के अनुपात से नौकरी दिलाने के लिए आपने विधान में रखा है, मैं उस का स्वागत करता हूँ और आपने विधान में जो ऐसी हिदायत रखी है, वह ठीक है और उचित है, लेकिन यह सब को मालूम है कि आज उन सिफारिशों पर अमल नहीं होता है और हरिजनों को सरकारी नौकरियों में उनकी संख्या के अनुसार जगहें नहीं मिल पाती हैं। इस बारे में मैं सरकार को यह सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से आपने रेपयूजीज के लिए एक अलग मिनिस्टर बना दिया है उसी तरह से आप शोडयूल्ड कास्ट के लिए एक अलग मिनिस्टर बनाइये, जो इन सब बातों को देखे और यह इश्वोर करे कि आप जो, सिफारिश करते हैं उन पर वास्तव में अमल भी होता है। हिन्दू समाज ने हमें जो सैकड़ों वर्षों से अपने पंरों के तले रौंदा है, और ६ करोड़ आदिमियों को गुलाम से भी बदतर बना कर रक्खा है, जब तक उन की दशा नहीं

सुधरती और वह भी इंसान की तरह अपनी जिन्दगी नहीं बसर करने लगते, तब तो इस आजादी के कोई मानी नहीं और वह आजादी हमारे किस काम की जिसमें हम लोग जानवरों की तरह जीवन व्यतीत करते हों और परतंत्रता में जकड़े हों। आज हम लोग रेपयूजीज पर करोड़ों रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, उन की एक अलग मिनिस्टरी बनी हुई है और उन का अपना एक अलग मिनिस्टर है, मैं यह कोई उन के खिलाफ नहीं कह रहा हूँ, वह बेचारे मुसीबत में बाहर से भाग कर आये हैं, आप की शरण हैं, आप भरसक उन की मदद करिये, लेकिन मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि सच्चे रेपयूजी हम लोग हैं, हम लोग तो पिछले हजारों वर्षों से हीन अवस्था में रहते आये हैं, हिन्दू समाज ने हमेशा हमें तिरस्कृत किया है और दबाये रक्खा है, इसलिए हमारी उन्नति करने के लिए, सामाजिक, आर्थिक और शैक्षणिक हर दिशा में हम को ऊपर उठाने के लिए अभी तक कोई स्कीम अथवा प्रोग्राम बन नहीं पाया है और आज इस बात की बहुत जरूरत है कि रेपयूजीज के समान हम शोडयूल्ड कास्ट वालों की देखभाल के वास्ते भी एक सेप्रेट मिनिस्टरी बना दी जाय ताकि वह हमारे सुधार के वास्ते प्रयोजन रखे और उन पर अमल कराने की कोशिश करे।

शोडयूल्ड कास्ट के बारे में जो श्रीकान्त जी की रिपोर्ट है, वह काफ़ी अच्छी है और हमारे डाक्टर काटजू भी बहुत अच्छे आदमी हैं लेकिन सिर्फ अच्छे होने से तो काम नहीं बनता, उन सिफारिशों और सुझावों पर अमल भी तो कराया जाना चाहिये। हमारे भाई जगजीवन राम वहां पर हैं और जब वह राजस्थान, विन्ध्य प्रदेश, हिमाचल प्रदेश और भूपाल गये थे, तो उन से लोगों ने शिकायत की थी कि हमारे लोगों के लिए अभी तक कुछ नहीं

[श्री पी० एन० राजभौज]

किया गया है। आज भी विन्ध्यप्रदेश में थोड़े दिन पहले में गया तो मैं ने देखा कि वहां आज के दिन भी मनुस्मृति का राज्य है और जातिपात और छुआछूत काफ़ी है और उन की बंस्ती में जानेतक की पाबन्दी है, पूरा मनु-स्मृति का राज्य वहां पर चल रहा है। हम ने इस की तरफ़ मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान दिलाया है, लेकिन कुछ नहीं होता, कोई हमारी बात नहीं सुनता क्यों कि हम बायस पार्टी के खिलाफ़ हैं, हम उन की पार्टी के आदमी नहीं हैं। अंग्रेजी राज्य के जमाने में जो बी० सी० थे, ह कुछ हमारी बात सुनते भी थे, लेकिन आज तो वन पार्टी गवर्नमेंट है, दूसरी पार्टी की बातें नहीं सुनते और अपोजीशन को खतरनाक समझ कर उन को अपने पास नहीं आने देते, चारों तरफ़ अपनी पार्टी वाले, रिस्तेदार और बिरादरी वाले जुटा रखे हैं।

राजस्थान में एक कान्फ़ेन्स हुई थी, जिस के अध्यक्ष श्री अमृतलाल यादव थे। अपने भाषण में उन्होंने ने जो कुछ कहा है उस को पढ़ कर मैं सुनाता हूँ। वह कहते हैं :

‘मन्दिरों में भी हरिजनों का प्रवेश नहीं हो पाया है। इस सम्बन्ध में एक विधेयक राज्य सरकार के विचाराधीन है।’

और भी कई बातें लिखी हैं।

‘हरिजनों को उन के खेतों में पशुओं के पानी पीने की कुंडी से पानी ले कर अपनी प्यास बुझानी पड़ती है ऐसे प्रदेश में इस बात की बड़ी आवश्यकता है कि राजस्थान के धनी-मानी सज्जन एक विशेष धन-राशि जमा कर मानवता को इस पशुता के जीवन से मुक्त कर यश के भागी बनें।’

इसी तरह से इस में और भी बातें लिखी हैं। और यह सब बातें उन की कही हुई हैं

जो कि कांग्रेस के मिनिस्टर हैं, हम लोग तो विरोधी नेता हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने बताया कि :

‘सार्वजनिक कुओं से हरिजन पानी नहीं निकाल सकते, नाई उन की हजामत नहीं बनाता, व धोबी कपड़े नहीं धोता है। धर्मशाला, सराय आदि सार्वजनिक स्थानों में ठहरने, ग्रामों में पक्का मकान बनाने, मिठाई बनाने, विवाह, गंगाज आदि उत्सवों पर बंड बाजा बजाने और दूल्हे के आभूषणों से सुसज्जित घोड़े पर बैठ कर तोरण मारने तक पर भी समाज की ओर से प्रतिबन्ध लगे हुए हैं।’

इस प्रकार की बातें आज देश में चल रही हैं और लोग कहते हैं कि बहुत अच्छा हो रहा है, आजादी आ गई। लेकिन आज किसी को यह पता नहीं है कि हमारे हरिजन भाइयों के साथ क्या हो रहा है। जो हमारे कांग्रेस के हरिजन भाई कांग्रेस के टिकट पर चुन कर आये हैं वह बेचारे क्या करेंगे। उन का तो वही हाल है जैसे कि “पानी का रंग कैसा, जैसा तुम कहो वैसा”। इस लिये हाउस के सामने मेरी यह प्रार्थना है कि जब तक देश में हरिजनों का सवाल हल नहीं होगा तब तक सुख और शान्ति नहीं होगी। जिस के बारे में हमारे फारेन मिनिस्टर प० नेहरू भी कहते हैं कि कोरिया में क्या हो रहा है, अफ्रीका में क्या हो रहा है ? मैं समझता हूँ कि अफ्रीका में जैसी परिस्थिति नीग्रोज की है उस से गिरी हुई परिस्थिति यहां हम लोगों की है। नीग्रोज की परिस्थिति पर तो अमरीका करोड़ों रुपये खर्च कर सकता है लेकिन हमारे लिये कुछ नहीं हो सकता। फारेन कन्ट्रीज में एम्बेसडर्स रखे हैं लेकिन उन के दफ्तरों में हमारी जाति के चपरासी भी नहीं रखे गये हैं। मुसलमानों में से हमारे यहां दो मिनिस्टर हैं, एक डिप्टी मिनिस्टर हैं और दो पार्लियामेन्टरी सेक्रेटरीज हैं। और हम लोगों में से जिन की आबादी पांच

करोड़ से ज्यादा है एक जगजीवन राम जी तो बैठे हैं, उन के भलावा एक डिप्टी मिनिस्टर हैं, जिन को हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट दे दिया। हरिजनों का मामला ऐसे ही चलता है और अगर उस के लिये हम लोग भवाज उठाते हैं तो कहते हैं कि क्या खतरनाक बात तुम बोलते हो। आप नीग्रो के बारे में और अफ्रीका की समस्याओं पर बोलने के काबिल तभी हो सकते हैं जब अपने मुल्क के भ्रष्टों को अपने बराबर कर लें।

दूसरी बात इसाइयों के बारे में है। हम लोगों को ईसाई बनाने का सजेशन चल रहा है।

श्री गिडवानी (धाना) : आप मिनिस्टर बनेंगे ?

श्री पी० एम० राजभोज : मैं मिनिस्टर बनूंगा तो पावर से बनूंगा, ताकत से बनूंगा। मेरी हाउस से प्रार्थना है कि आज हम लोगों को ईसाई बनाने की बड़ी कोशिश हो रही है इस लिये शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स का जो मामला है उस को जल्दी ही ठीक करना चाहिये। वरना मुल्क की हालत कमजोर होती जायगी और दूसरे देश इस के कुचलने की कोशिश करेंगे।

१९३२ में पूना पैक्ट हुआ था। उस में गांधी जी के प्राण धम्वेडकर ने और हम लोगों ने बचाये और पूना पैक्ट पर हम लोगों ने दस्तखत किये। भ्रष्टों ने अपना नुकसान किया गांधी जी के प्राण बचाने के लिये। लेकिन इस पर भी हम को धोखा दे कर ज्वाइन्ट एलेक्टोरेट की बात रक्खी गई। इस से हमारी उन्नति होने के बजाय भवनति हो रही है। इस लिये जितने देश के शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोग हैं उन की स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। उन की रक्षा के लिये अभी कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। आप नौकरी के ही बारे में देखिये। इस के सम्बन्ध में सरकार के बड़े बड़े आर्डर निकलते हैं लेकिन

उन पर भ्रमल नहीं होता है। आप आई० ए० एस० के बारे में देखिये। हमारे यहां बी० ए० हैं, बी० ए० ग्रान्स हैं, एम० ए० हैं, लेकिन उन को नौकरी मिलनी मुश्किल हो जाती है, हालांकि सरकार हमेशा कहती है कि मिलनी चाहिये। सुनता ही कौन है? मेरा सुझाव है कि हम लोगों के लिये एक भ्रमल डिपार्टमेंट होना चाहिये जैसे रिफ्यूजीज के लिये खोला है। उन के लिये हाउसिंग स्कीम है, उन को कर्ज मिलता है, हर तरह से उन की सहायता होती है, उसी तरह से शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स को भी आबादी के हिसाब से नौकरियों में ठीक प्रोपोर्शन मिलना चाहिये। उन की पार्टी का मिनिस्टर होना चाहिये। रोज एम्बेसडर और गवर्नर बन रहे हैं, मुसलमान गवर्नर बन रहे हैं, लेकिन शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोग गवर्नर नहीं बन सकते। दूसरी तमाम जातियों के लोग बन सकते हैं। सरकार हम को बराबर सब कुछ देने के लिये कहती है लेकिन भ्रमल में कभी नहीं लाती है। पं० नेहरू तो हमेशा मुसलमान ही की बात मानते हैं। ठीक है, मुसलमान हमारे देश में रहते हैं, उन को उन की तीन, चार करोड़ की आबादी के हिसाब से दे दो। हमारे सिख भाई लड़ते हैं इस लिये उन में से एक आकर मिनिस्टर बन गया, एक डिप्टी मिनिस्टर बन गया। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो शोर मचाता है, जो रोता है उस की बात आप हमेशा मानते हैं। लेकिन हम हजारों वर्षों से दबे हुए हैं, गिरे हुए हैं। हम लोगों की हर तरह से दुर्दशा होती है, हर डिपार्टमेंट में हमारे साथ बड़ी ज्यादाती होती है। हम लोगों की आर्थिक परिस्थिति को सुधारने के लिये, हम लोगों को बराबरी के लेवल पर लाने के लिये कोई स्कीम नहीं है। आप को हम लोगों को कान्फिडेंस में लेना चाहिये।

इस देश में कितनी जमीन है, उस जमीन का बंटवारा होना चाहिये। आज सब जगह

[श्री पी० एन० राजभोज]

भूदान यज्ञ का शोर मचा हुआ है, लेकिन भूदान यज्ञ में मिली हुई जमीन का बटवारा जब तक भूछूतों को नहीं मिलता तब तक कोई लाभ होने वाला नहीं है। आज बहुत काफ़ी जमीन है, और हर तरह की है, उस को भूछूतों की आर्थिक परिस्थिति को सुधारने के लिये दे दो। हम लोगों की आर्थिक परिस्थिति सुधारने के लिये कोई स्कीम नहीं है और भूदान यज्ञ का डोंग बनाते हैं। इस लिये जमीन के बटवारे का सवाल जल्दी से जल्दी हाथ में लेना चाहिये। गांव में रहने वाले शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग अपनी जमीन न होने से दूसरों के गुलाम रहते हैं जब तक बेगार करते हैं तब तक रहते हैं वरना निकाल दिये जाते हैं। उन को मनुष्यों की तरह जीवन बिताने के लिए जरूरी है कि जितनी जमीन नई उपजाऊ बनाई गई है और जितनी भूदान में मिली है वह सब गांवों में बसने वाले शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों को ही दी जाय जिस से वह इज्जत की खिन्दगी बिता सकें। जब तक हमारी आर्थिक परिस्थिति देश में अच्छी नहीं होती है तब तक हमारे मुल्क की उन्नति नहीं हो सकती है। इस के लिये मैं ने कई सजेसन दिये हैं। एक यह है :

(a) that the Report is inadequate and lumps together Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

हमारे यहां पढ़े लिखे लोग भी हैं मैं तो कहता हूं कि आप किसी डिपार्टमेंट का मिनिस्टर श्रीकान्त जी को बना दीजिये और उन की जगह पर कोई हमारा आदमी रखिये। इस से आप को कोई नुकसान नहीं होगा। मैं काटजू साहब से यह प्रार्थना करता हूं। वह तो कैलाश के नाथ हैं। उन को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये।

पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन जो है उस को देखिये। उस में हमारा आदमी नहीं है। मौलाना आजाद क आदमी उस में मੈम्बर है।

मुसलमानों को पाकिस्तान मिल गया है लेकिन तब भी हिन्दुस्तान में मुसलमानों को सरकार में काफी हिस्सा मिला हुआ है। एजुकेशन मिनिस्ट्री के सेक्रेटरी मि० हुमायूं कबीर बने हुए हैं। और आज तो हमारे मौलाना साहब का ही राज्य है। डिप्टी लीडर हैं। पंडित जी उन की हर एक बात मानते हैं। अन्धेर नगरी चौपट राज बना हुआ है। डाक्टर अम्बेडकर के जमाने में शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट को विदेशों में तालीम हासिल करने के वजीफों की स्कीम भी बह बन्द कर दी गई है। इस लिये मैं कहता हूं कि आप कम से कम दूसरों के लिये भी तो कुछ हिस्सा दीजिये। यह देश हमारा है, हम हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा हुए हैं। इस की आजादी के लिये हम लोगों ने भी कोशिश की है। हम अच्छे लड़ने वाले हैं, हमारी तीन महार बटे लिये फ्रंट पर हैं। इस के बारे में भी मैं ने कुछ सजेसन दिये हैं जो कि मैं पढ़ कर सुनाता हूं।

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“(a) and having considered, the same, this House is of opinion that in order to raise the social level of the Scheduled Castes, all reserved posts in Government services should be filled with Scheduled Caste candidates by relaxing some of the conditions such as minimum qualification etc. which may not be fulfilled by Scheduled Caste candidates;

(b) the Government should grant special scholarships to deserving Scheduled Caste students for going to foreign countries for higher academic and technical education;

(c) the landless Scheduled Caste people should be provided with land and other implements so that unemployment among those people

would be minimised, and that special Taqavi Loans should be given to them in the initial stages;

(d) a separate ministry on the same lines as that of Rehabilitation Ministry should be formed with a view to safeguarding the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to bring them to the level of other advanced classes in India in economic, educational and social matters; and

(e) immediate steps should be taken to provide Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with compulsory primary education all over India."

इसके बाद मैंने यह सजेशन दिया है :

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

(a) proper representation should be given to the Scheduled Castes in the diplomatic services and in the appointment of Governors of States;

(b) the Scheduled Castes of the Jammu and Kashmir State should be given due representation in Government services according to their population, and all the facilities and privileges enjoyed by the Scheduled Castes in India be extended to the Scheduled Castes of that State;

(c) a sum of Rs. 25 crores be set apart in the first Five Year Plan, for the amelioration of the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in view of their backwardness in all walks of life;

(d) the Scheduled Caste refugees from Pakistan should be given the first priority in the matter of monetary compensation on account

of their sheer poverty and helplessness;

(e) the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes should not be filled by candidates belonging to other communities and that in case Government find that suitable Scheduled Caste candidates are not available, necessary steps should be taken by Government to arrange for the training of the Scheduled Castes in order to bring them up to the desired Standard;

Mr. Chairman: These amendments have already been circulated.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : वह मालूम तो सब को होगा यह ठीक है, लेकिन इस लिये पढ़ता हूँ कि जिसमें यह रिकार्ड भी हो जाय ।

(f) a suitable machinery should be set up at the Centre for the proper implementation of the recommendations of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and other facilities provided for by the Government, and that an advisory Committee consisting of members drawn from the ranks of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes should be appointed to advise Government in this behalf;

(g) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes....."

3 P.M.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should stop now. I am calling the next speaker. Shri Barman.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Only one minute. I will finish now.

Mr. Chairman: I have called the next speaker.

श्री गणपति राम (ज़िला जौनपुर—पूर्व-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ । जब पिछली रिपोर्ट पर बहस हुई थी, पिछले साल, उस वक्त भी कुछ मੈम्बरों को मौका नहीं दिया गया था । उन को पहले प्रायोरिटी दी

[श्री गणपति राम]

जानी चाहिये। मैं भी उनमें से एक हूँ, बार बार कोशिश करने के बाद भी मुझे बोलने का मौका नहीं मिला था।

Mr. Chairman: I will consider that.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं एक सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि प्रत्येक राज्य से एक एक व्यक्ति को जरूर बोलने का मौका दिया जाना चाहिये, ताकि हर राज्य का प्रतिनिधित्व हो सके।

श्री उड्डे : (मंडला—जबलपुर दक्षिण—रक्षित—अनुसूचित आदिम जातियाँ) : सभापति महोदय, मुझे आज तक इस पार्लियामेंट में बोलने का मौका नहीं मिला है और आज आदिवासी मेम्बर जितने कांग्रेस पार्टी में हैं, लगभग १५ के, उन्होंने मुझ से कहा है कि आप ही हम लोगों की ओर से बोलिये। तो मुझ को अवसर दिया जाय।

Shri N. Rashiah (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Every State must be given a chance, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Barman.

Shri Barman (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, the Commissioner's report has been placed before the Members a month ago and it is under discussion today. It is such a vast subject, I say, of national importance that the limited time of ten minutes or a few minutes grace is quite insufficient to deal with it. I shall therefore state a few broad points which I think it is necessary that the hon. the Home Minister should take into account.

The first point I want to place before the House is that this report relates to the condition of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the year 1952. Today is the 18th of December 1953, and we are discussing something which an investigating officer had reported upon on February

13th, 1953. It is not at all known to the House as to what are the recommendations that have been taken notice of and acted upon by the Government. We do not know during the course of this one long year which are the recommendations of the Commissioner which have been tried by the Ministry in the direction that the Commissioner has indicated, wherein they differ from it, and what is the result of their efforts so far. The hon. the Home Minister is present today. On the last occasion, but for his indication by his opening speech, he was almost all the time not present.

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): Last year?

Shri Barman: Yes. We want to tell our grievances, our sorrows and lay them at his door, because until and unless the important persons in the Government take notice of our grievances it is no use discussing this report.

Even this year he has not stated anything whatsoever as to what action he has taken on the recommendations of Mr. Shrikant which were placed, as I said, a year ago before the Government. Had we known some of these facts we could have discussed the report on those lines. I can cite passages from this report where Mr. Shrikant has made certain recommendations at page 63 about reservation rules, at page 77 about educational institutions—which are very important and fundamental for our amelioration. My amendment itself will show that this year there has been some improvement over last year and I have as a matter of fact said in my amendment that we commend this Government's action so far as educational efforts are concerned.

But there also there is an important point which has been indicated by Mr. Shrikant and it is this. Though more students are now coming up on the educational level with the help of grants and scholarships that are being given by the Centre, yet our students

find it very very difficult to enter into educational institutions which are of an important nature for the uplift of a community, such as engineering colleges, medical colleges and other technical institutions. There the standard of admission is so high that not even a student who has passed in the first division can get admission into those institutions. If I had the time, Sir, I would have shown you that the sympathy that this Government and this House has shown to the scheduled castes in respect of education has not been in vain. I can state one figure just to show that even in professional education last year there were 236 medical students and 250 engineering students and this year their number is 268 in medical and 323 in engineering. But what is that? It is a drop in the ocean in a country like India where there are more than 5 crores of scheduled caste people and 2 crores of scheduled tribes people in the lowest rung of the ladder. And it is because of the fact that our students cannot get admission in those institutions.

In some States, I should again repeat this year, even in the pre-independence days we had facilities for admission into such institutions. I know personally that even a student who had passed in the third division was admitted in the Medical College of Calcutta; he passed the M.B. examination and after entering service has gone outside India to have specialised training. We do not suggest that you should now admit third division students, because there is one instance. But today our students are passing in the first division, and there are a large number of them who are passing in the second division. We request the Government of India to indicate to the State Governments that certain advantages must be given in favour of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. I was very sorry when the hon. the Home Minister repeated certain things which we already know, that the Centre has no power of giving a direction to the States in this matter. That we all

know. But I was sorry when he repeated it on the floor of the House at the very beginning of his speech. What does it indicate? Does it indicate any frustration on his part? Does it indicate that he is not going to press upon the Part A States, which he says are autonomous, in any matter in which technically he has no power? I should simply state that it is the Congress Government after all which is ruling the country. Whether the Centre has got statutory power or not, it is the Congress party and it is the Congress Government that, we all know, is now ruling every corner of India. It does not satisfy us when he says that the Part A States are autonomous. Let him try his best and if he fails, let him say on the floor of the House, this is the position and because of these obstacles, we could not do anything more, and then we shall see our way. But, so long as he does not try and does not let us know what the difficulty is, we shall certainly think that the Government is not doing intensely and earnestly what it could have done.

That is also the case with respect to the services. I have no time I shall simply state one or two things. Government does not give us any figure about the working on this line in the last year. What are we to do? We just ask a supplementary question here or a question there, which sometimes is allowed and sometimes not allowed. We sometimes get a glimpse of the working of the department which does not always give a correct picture. We expected that at least at this time, when this important matter is going to be discussed for a whole day, the Home Ministry would give us details in an administration report in this respect: how far Government has tried, how far it has failed and why it has failed. Then, we could have understood the position. The hon. Shri Datar, the Deputy Minister, is dealing mostly with this subject of Scheduled Castes. On the 14th December last, in reply to starred question No. 307 he said: Government are still considering what

[Shri Barman]

further action is necessary to ensure strict implementation of the reservation orders. This is unsatisfactory. In the year 1950, the order or resolution which deals with the latest roster in the disposition of services so far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, was promulgated. Even today, the hon. Deputy Minister says that he is still considering what attempts could be made. I must express my gratefulness for the help that the Government has rendered in the matter of the educational upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So far as other matters are concerned, we are a bit more hopeful than we were last year. But, we are not satisfied that these matters are being earnestly attended to. I am a Member of this honourable House, and I was a party to that resolution that was passed on the 13th December last year.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: What about foreign scholarships?

Shri Barman: If that be the goal, we should be sincere and ready to fulfil that promise which has been enjoined upon us by this sacred resolution of the 13th December.

Mr. Chairman: Shri B. S. Murthy.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): Sir, before you call upon Shri B. S. Murthy, I would like just to have a clarification from you. In your opening remarks, you said that you have to take into consideration the Scheduled Caste Members in regard to this particular debate. I want to know exactly why you include only Scheduled Caste Members, whether it is just forgetfulness....

Mr. Chairman: When I said Scheduled Castes, I meant both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): May I point out, Sir, that the Anglo-Indian community also has been included in this report?

Mr. Chairman: I shall see that one of their Members is given an opportunity.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the Government for having condescended to allot a day for pouring forth our grievances due to the apathy of the caste Hindus.

I must congratulate, at the outset, Shri Shrikant for having given a frank and fearless report. I hope he will continue to be frank and fearless in collating the information he gets from the States. We know that the report is not complete, because, several instances, I know, have not been incorporated in it. But, still, as an officer I must say he has been frank and fearless.

I am thoroughly disappointed with the speech of the hon. Dr. Katju, our saviour, who has been appointed as the Minister in charge of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, backward classes, etc., etc. He is keen to know why I am disappointed. Last year, a discussion had taken place and many a Member had been given an opportunity to not only ventilate grievances, but also to come forward with suggestions. I would have appreciated if the Ministry had come forth with their reactions to the suggestions made. In spite of that, the Home Minister says that everything possible is being done. A general statement. He says, if we had the capacity to manufacture money, deficit or paper money, we could give you 80 lakhs or 80 crores. This cheap statement should be avoided in trying to solve a problem. It is not merely a communal problem; it is not a religious problem; it is a national problem; please beware of it. If you neglect this community, you neglect your very existence. How long do you want this problem to exist.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may kindly address the Chair.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Thank you, Sir. Dr. Katju is a good friend of mine.

I am not attacking him; I am attacking the Ministry.

Dr. Katju: I quite agree with you. Thank you.

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is a national problem. I shall give a few instances to show that it is a national problem. The Congress Ministry must understand that Gandhiji has shed his life in this cause. He has assured a change of heart in the Caste Hindus who have been mainly responsible for centuries in keeping down the Harijan downtrodden (*An Hon. Member:* "As a slave"). Not only a slave, but as a person who is less than a human being. Nowhere in the world could you find an analogy for this.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Only Gandhi?

Shri B. S. Murthy: To Dr. Ambedkar I am coming later on. Let Shri P. N. Rajabhoj have his patience.

Even today, after 6 years of independence, a Scheduled Caste man cannot have the privilege of riding a horse on the grandest occasion in his life, at the time of his marriage. What reply has Dr. Katju to give to the world? It is in Nehru's India that this is happening. In Coorg, a Harijan cannot have the privilege of riding on a horse. In Nehru's India again, Harijan women are not fortunate enough to wear ornaments or even to wear coloured clothes. My hon. friend Dr. Katju should not go to Everest heights because of his name, but come to the plains and see the cauldron of agony through which Harijans have to pass daily. In Nehru's India, Harijans cannot purchase a house-site in a caste Hindu locality. You talk of equality and equal opportunities. I shall come to that subject later on. What is most inhuman and unspeakable is that in Nehru's India, Harijans are not entitled to eat preparations of ghee. *Laddus*, he can never touch because he is a Harijan. I am not drawing all this from my imagination. These are mentioned in the report. Please open your eyes and read and re-read and digest and then say how Harijans are being treated in Nehru's India.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah (Golaghat-Jorhat): Where?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am coming. Not in Assam.

Shri Jhunjhunwala (Bhagalpur Central): Nor in Bihar.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Dr. Katju, the Home Minister, has been pleased to state that untouchability has been abolished in urban areas. He is wrong. His information is wrong. He is not aware of the problem, because I can give him certain of the urban areas. I do not think he will call Bhopal, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner etc., as rural areas.

Dr. Katju: In a way.

Shri B. S. Murthy: These are citadels of untouchability.

Dr. Katju: Please remember I mentioned "B" States. There are all in "B" States.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I remember every word he said, because it is my problem; and I am anxious that he should also remember that this House speaks in one voice about this national problem.

Now, Sir, I come to another point. This is what happened recently in places very close to Delhi. I am not speaking about Deogarh and Mysore, because if I begin to speak about Deogarh and Mysore, I have to ask about Aligarh, which I do not want to do. It is for the Ministry to say whether there is any justification or not. In Madhya Bharat what has happened recently? I think one or two Congress friends have tabled a starred question and got some answer. There, the Thakores and Rajputs have actually collaborated with dacoits and then brought them into the State, made them march from village to village to terrorise Harijans, and that too under Dr. Katju's very nose.

Some Hon. Members: Very short nose.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Kancheepuram): He has got a short nose.

Shri B. S. Murthy: For this how can we bring in punitive legislation! Persuasion, persuasion, persuasion! Seek and it shall be found! By seeking we find it is not bread but stone.

We are always parading our culture, our Constitution, our civilisation, everything, in foreign countries; and our Constitution contains a Chapter on Fundamental Rights. When six crores of people in India are denied fundamental rights, why not be sincere by abolishing the Chapter and saying we do not have fundamental rights; it is my right, his right, might is right.

Then, about scholarships. Last year, 1951-52, only Rs. 15 lakhs have been granted; and this year Rs. 30 lakhs have been granted. But the number of applications received was 10,775 but those granted were only 5,893. Nearly half the number of applications have been rejected, and they say "We have no money". No money? For whom? For Harijans. But to translate our Puranas into Arabic, Persian and all living and dead languages, we have plenty of money. What is this?

Shri Barman: Thirty lakhs were for last year. This year Rs. 50 lakhs plus another Rs. 10 lakhs has been given.

Shri B. S. Murthy: My information is based only on the Report, not on the future of the Report.

Now, thanks to Maulana Saheb and Mr. Malaviya who are absent, who are in charge of our education, this is being done. The Home Minister has rightly pointed out that more facilities for Harijans should be given by Government, and asked "Where is the money?" Talk, talk and talk. If we ask them, in the beginning of the world there was the word. They quote the Bible. The word is there. There is money to invest and spend in Kashmir and in Korea and other places, but to educate these neglected children of Harijans who, for centuries, have been under the very grinding foot of heartless Caste Hindus, you have no money.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should conclude now.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am coming to the conclusion. Only one sentence. I do not want to take much time.

We are 101 Members here including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Mr. Jaipal Singh should be glad I am including everything, and that is nearly one-fifth, and there when I see the Ministers, people who are less than three crores are having two Ministers, one Deputy Minister, two Parliamentary Secretaries. I am only talking of certain categories of distinctions recognised by the Government of India. I am not talking communally. And according to that, we should have at least two Ministers and two Parliamentary Secretaries and four Deputy Ministers. There is no dearth of men here. I have got any number of people. They need not come to this side. There are so many people who can honourably and creditably fill the benches there.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Once they become Ministers, they do not help any community.

Mr. Chairman: Let there be no interruption. There is very little time.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In every delegation, they include this community, that community; but not even a single Harijan has so far been included. Why not? People have been sent to foreign conferences, especially to the I.L.O., and I can tell this hon. House that Harijans who have gone there have won approbation from the I.L.O. Why not you try? Every time you say they are not educated. How long do you want to keep them so? Do you want to talk in the same manner as the Englishman was talking to Indians whenever they wanted equal opportunities. Please change your mind. Gandhiji wanted to change it and you are still struggling with the old fossilised and crystallised mind which has no love for any community except for its own.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should conclude now. I am calling the next Member.

Shri B. S. Murthy: One more sentence. In conclusion, I would request the hon. Home Minister to carry out certain suggestions made not only by myself but by many people. The suggestions are: comprehensive legislation, Rs. 10 crores to be set apart, giving benefits of a moratorium, granting occupancy rights and preventing forcible eviction by landlords from the hovels in which these Harijans are residing, forbidding non-agriculturists from investing their surplus money on agricultural lands, granting land to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other landless labour to see that the tiller of the soil is benefited as Gandhiji wished....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should resume his seat now. Mr. Ganpati Ram.

श्री गणपति राम : माननीय चेंबरमैन महोदय, सब से पहले मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि बहुत दिनों के बाद

सभापति महोदय : इस की जरूरत नहीं है, आप अपने दस मिनट इस मजमून में लगाइये ।

श्री गणपति राम : मैं इस रिपोर्ट को तैयार करने वाले श्री श्रीकान्त जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने ने हिन्दुस्तान का दौरा कर के, इतना परिश्रम कर के इस रिपोर्ट को तैयार किया और इतने मॅटर्स इस में पेश किये ।

लेकिन जब मैं इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ता हूँ और देखता हूँ कि हरिजनों के लिये अभी तक क्या किया जा रहा है और भविष्य में क्या किया जाने वाला है तो मुझे जितनी प्रसन्नता होनी चाहिये, उतनी नहीं होती । मैं ने कल बड़े गौर से माननीय गृह मंत्री महोदय की स्पीच भी सुनी । उन्होंने आश्वासन देते हुए वह कहा कि जब कभी कहीं किसी ऊँचे अफसर की नियुक्ति करने की बात आती है तो मुझे यह भी देखना पड़ता है कि वह आदमी कितना काबिल है, उस में कितनी योग्यता है और

वह पद के सम्भालने की ताकत रखता है या नहीं । मैं उन से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के अन्दर ऐसे योग्य व्यक्तियों की कमी नहीं है । हमारे अन्दर ऐसे योग्य नवयुवक पैदा हो रहे हैं कि अगर उन को मौका दिया जाय तो किसी माने में वे अयोग्य साबित नहीं होंगे ।

मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप देखना चाहते हैं तो आप मौका दे कर अन्दाज़िये, वह किसी माने में अयोग्य साबित नहीं होंगे । यहाँ मुझे एक कहानी याद आती है । एक बार गरुड़ जी कैलास पर शंकर जी से मुलाकात करने के लिये गये । वहाँ पर उन की गरदन में जो साँप लिपटा हुआ था, वह गरुड़ जी को देख कर फूँ फूँ करने लगा । उस समय गरुड़ जी ने कहा था कि भाई, मैं तो तुम्हारी जाति को हमेशा निगलता रहता हूँ, आज तुम ऐसे स्थान पर हो, जिस की वजह से सुरक्षित हो । तो यह तो स्थान का महत्व है जिस की वजह से तुम में इतना जोश है । वह श्लोक भी मुझे याद है, इसलिये इस को मैं सुना देना चाहता हूँ :

जानामि रे सर्पं तवप्रतापम्

कंठस्थितो गर्जसि शंकरस्य ।

स्थानं प्रधानम् न बलप्रधानम्

स्थानस्थितो क पुरुषोऽपि सिंहं ॥

"Oh Serpent! I know your valour. You have occupied a place round the neck of Shankara, you roar like this, your power is not your actual power, it is the power of the place you have occupied. A coward becomes lion-like if he can occupy a place of advantage, even though he is actually a coward."

मैं तो यह कहता हूँ कि अगर आज भी हमारे आबमियों को ऊँचे ऊँचे पदों पर आप अवसर दें तो वह किसी माने में कम योग्य साबित

[श्री गणपति राम]

नहीं हो सकते। मैं तो यह उदाहरण आप 1 लाखों के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे जो भी व्यक्ति आज मिनिस्ट्री में हैं या दूसरे पवों पर हैं, वे किसी माने में कम नहीं हैं। अगर दूसरे भी स्थानों पर उन को मौका दिया जाय तो वे किसी माने में कम योग्य साबित नहीं हो सकते।

आज देश में यह कहा जाता है कि हरिजनों के लिये हम बहुत काफ़ी कार्य कर रहे हैं। मैं यह जानता हूँ कि काम जरूर हो रहा है और पहले जो प्रगति थी उस की अपेक्षा प्रगति कुछ अधिक है। लेकिन जिस तरह से आप सोचते हैं कि दस वर्षों में, जिस में से चार वर्ष बीत चुके हैं, हम शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स को दूसरे वर्गों के बराबर कर देंगे तो क्या जिस रफ़्तार से आप चल रहे हैं, उस से वे उन के बराबर आ सकेंगे। जहाँ तक ज़मीन देने की समस्या है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब कभी मैं प्रधान मंत्री की किताबों को पढ़ा करता था तो मैं सोचा करता था कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री बड़े ही क्रान्तिकारी भावना के आदमी हैं। आज उन के हाथ में सारा शासन है। वह चाहें तो आज जहाँ ज़मीन उत्तर और पड़ती पड़ी है, वहाँ की ज़मीन हरिजनों को देकर उन की माली हालत को सुधार सकते हैं और इस तरह अपनी क्रान्तिकारी भावना का परिचय दे सकते हैं। आज हमें अपने गृह-मन्त्री डाक्टर काटजू से निवेदन करना है कि क्या आप ने कोई ऐसी स्कीम बनाई है कि जिस के अनुसार दो वर्षों में या चार वर्षों में ज़मीन हरिजनों को दी जा सकती है और उन की माली हालत को सुधारा जा सकता है। हमारे सामने वादे तो बहुत किये जाते हैं, लेकिन जब उन को पूरा करने का सवाल आता है तो उन को टाल दिया जाता है। जहाँ कहीं नौकरियों में हरिजनों को लेने का सवाल आता है तो वहाँ यही जवाब दिया जाता है कि ये

तो अयोग्य हैं, ये तो पूर्ण रूपेण शिक्षित नहीं हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज हरिजनों में भी अनएम्प्लायमेंट का क्वेश्चन पैदा हो रहा है। अगर आप उन को एम्प्लाय (employ) करना चाहते हैं तो आप उन को लीजिये। आप को हजारों और लाखों की तादाद में हरिजन और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोग आप को मिल सकते हैं। मुझे मालूम है कि जहाँ कहीं, आई० ए० एस०, आई० पी० एस० और पी० सी० एस० का सवाल आता है तो हरिजनों को स्थान नहीं मिलता। अभी हाल ही में आडिटर जनरल के यहाँ जो पोस्ट निकली है, वहाँ भी सैकड़ों आदमियों की दरहवास्तें पेश हुई हैं। क्या मैं आप से पूछ सकता हूँ कि आप ने आडिटर जनरल के पास या और डिपार्टमेंट में कोई इन्स्ट्रक्शन्स जारी किये हैं कि जो जो जगहें इन के यहाँ खाली हैं वहाँ शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लिये केवल शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट को ही वे ब दी जायें। मैं आप से इस्तेफ़ा कर्हूंगा कि अगर आप ने ऐसे इन्स्ट्रक्शन्स न दिये हों तो फिर भी उन को इन्स्ट्रक्ट करिए।

हम को रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट के बारे में पिछले साल रेलवे की रिपोर्ट पढ़ने का अवसर मिला था जब कि बहुत बिनती करने के बाद मन्त्री महोदय ने अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश की थी। लेकिन वह इस साल हमारे हाउस के सामने या मेम्बरों के सामने नहीं आई, इस का मुझे खेद है। मैं तो कहूंगा कि जितने भी डिपार्टमेंट हैं, जितनी भी मिनिस्ट्रियाँ हैं, उनको आप इन्स्ट्रक्शन्स ईश्यू कीजिये कि उन के डिपार्टमेंट में कितने हरिजन हैं या उन का क्या परसेंटेज है, वह सब हम मेम्बरों के पास भेजें, ताकि हम पता तो लगा सकें कि हमारे कितने आदमी हैं। अभी तो हम कोई इस तरह की रिपोर्ट मांगते हैं तो वह नहीं दी जाती। जब कभी प्रश्न पूछते हैं तो यह कह कर अस्वीकार कर दिया जाता है कि यह तो साम्प्रदायिकता

का प्रश्न है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सामप्रदायिकता का प्रश्न कर के आप इस समस्या को हमेशा टालते रहेंगे। क्या आप परदे की आड़ से शिकार करते हुए इस शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब के प्रश्न को हमेशा अटकाए रखना चाहते हैं? मैं जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप इस समस्या को हल करिये।

आज आप कहते हैं कि हम ने ५० लाख की जगह अब ६० लाख रुपया स्कालरशिप देने के लिए शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और बैकवर्ड क्लास के लिये कर दिया है। लेकिन मैं पूछता हूँ कि शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब के पीछे आज उस में से कितना रुपया खर्च होता है। आप ने बैकवर्ड क्लासेज को मिला कर दोनों का नक्शा पेश कर दिया है और नाम लेते हैं शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब का। आप उस में पेश कर देते हैं बैकवर्ड क्लास को भी। अगर आप भ्रम से उन का नक्शा पेश करें तो पता लगे और वह हमारे सामने आवे।

मैं ने एक प्रश्न पहले पूछा था कि अनटचेबिलिटी को दूर करने के लिये आप ने जो ५० लाख रुपया रखा है उस में से कितना रुपया खर्च हुआ। मुझे मालूम है कि डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह जवाब दिया था कि अभी तक उस में से कुछ भी खर्च नहीं किया गया। यह कहा कि हमारी स्कीम बन रही है। साल खत्म हो गया, ५० लाख रुपया इस साल तक के लिये रखा गया है, यही रफ्तार रही तो वह पूरा का पूरा रुपया आप के बैंक में लोट आयेगा और वह खर्च नहीं हो सकेगा। क्या यही आप की रफ्तार रहेगी? क्या इसी तरीके से आप चलना चाहते हैं? मैं जब कभी जनता में घूमता हूँ तो यह प्रश्न पूछा जाता है कि हम लोगों की आबादी कितनी ज्यादा है, करीब पांचवां हिस्सा है, लेकिन हमारे मन्त्री, डिप्टी मन्त्री, पार्लियामेन्टरी सेक्रेटरी कितने हैं? मैं आप से पूछना चाहता

हूँ और आप के जरिए मैं प्रधान मन्त्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप हरिजन और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब समाज की इस पुकार को सुनिए और आप उन को मौका दे कर उस की योग्यता को देखिये मैं आप को आश्वासन दे सकता हूँ कि हरिजनों में से जो भी लिया जायगा वह किसी भी मौके में भ्रयोग्य साबित नहीं हो सकता।

जहां पर अस्पृश्यता का सवाल आता है तो यह कह दिया जाता है कि अस्पृश्यता बहुत मानों में खत्म हो चुकी है। मैं गृह मन्त्री महोदय से खास तौर से पूछूंगा कि आप ने अपने घर में, अपने यहां पर, क्या अस्पृश्यता को पूरी तरह से यही खत्म कर देने का प्रयास किया है? मैं तो कह सकता हूँ कि केवल प्रधान मन्त्री महोदय ऐसे हैं कि जिन्होंने अपने घर में हरिजन कुक (cook) को रखा है। उन के भलावा कोई भी मन्त्री ऐसा नहीं जान पड़ता जिन्होंने हरिजन कुक को रखा हो। मैं आप से इस्तेदुआ करूंगा कि अगर आप अनटचेबिलिटी को दूर करना चाहते हैं तो पहले अपने घर से आप इसे शुरू कीजिये। आप को देख कर दूसरे लोग आप का अनुकरण करेंगे। जो पार्लियामेंट के सदस्य हैं, उन सब से मैं इस्तेदुआ करूंगा कि आप एक एक आदमी को रखेंगे तो इस तरह से ५०० आदमी शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के काम में लग जायेंगे।

डा० काटजू : आप हरिजनों को कुक बनाने पर क्यों इतना जोर दे रहे हैं? हम तो उन को ज्यादा ऊंचा करना चाहते हैं, कुक थोड़े ही बनाना चाहते हैं।

श्री गणपति राम : ताकि हम भी आप के बराबर आ जायं।

डा० काटजू : हम भी यही चाहते हैं, लेकिन आप ने एम क्या रखा। कहां तो आप लीडर बनाना चाहते हैं और कहां कुक?

श्री गणपति राम : सभापति महोदय, फिर हम माननीय प्रधान मन्त्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहते हैं कि जैसे कि शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लिये १८० लाख रुपये पिछले साल उन की कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के लिये रखा गया था, उसी तरह से यदि जरा ठंडे दिल से शीर करें तो आप को हरिजनों के लिये भी दो करोड़, चार करोड़, दस करोड़ रुपया रखना चाहिये था। अगर आप उन के लिये १८० लाख रुपया रखते हैं तो करीब छः करोड़ हरिजनों के लिये दस करोड़ रुपया उन के लिये कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के लिये रख कर उन को भी उद्योग और व्यापार में प्रोत्साहन दे सकते हैं। क्या आप के सामने ऐसी कोई योजना है? आज समाज में और जनता में इस प्रकार की पुकार होती है, मैं आप से इस को कार्यान्वित कराना चाहता हूँ।

आज जो यह कहा जाता है कि समानता है, तो मैं उन के सामने अभी ताजा देवगढ़ का दृष्टान्त रखना चाहता हूँ कि किस तरह से श्री विनोबा भावे के साथ मन्दिर के पुजारियों ने व्यवहार किया। आज भी देहातों में अस्पृश्यता और छूआछूत की बीमारी बड़े पैमाने पर फैली हुई है। आज भी बनारस में हिन्दू नाई हरिजनों की हजामत नहीं बनाते और मुझे इस अवसर पर आप को यह बतलाते हुए कोई हिचक नहीं होती कि हमारे माननीय मंत्री श्री जगजीवन राम बनारस विश्वविद्यालय में शिक्षा प्राप्त कर रहे थे, तब एक नाई जो इनके बाल बना रहा था, उस को जब मालूम हुआ कि ये हरिजन हैं, तो उस ने भाषे बाल बना कर छोड़ दिया था और वह चीज आज भी बनारस में मौजूद है। इस के भ्रान्ताना मुझे स्वयं सन् ४८ में इस का अनुभव हुआ जब मैं ने काशी विश्वविद्यालय में वेद पढ़ने का प्रयास किया, तो शुरू में बहुत दिक्कत हुई, आखिर मैं बहुत प्रयत्न करने पर

मेरे और कल्याणी देवी के लिए वेद पढ़ाने के वास्ते अलग से एक अध्यापक रखा गया।

Mr. Chairman: He has already taken 11 minutes. He should conclude now.

श्री गणपति राम : मैं और अधिक न कह कर आप का ध्यान रिपोर्ट में कही गयी बातों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि उन सुझावों पर शीघ्र से शीघ्र अमल किया जाय।

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): We have 100 differences with Dr. Katju and his Government, but I think, Sir, we should agree with him that this is....

Shri Bheeka Bhai (Banswara—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): On a point of order, Sir, this debate is reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So far no single member of the Scheduled Tribes has spoken. Even last year, they were not given an opportunity.

Mr. Chairman: I am keeping that in view. There is no point of order.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: I agree with Dr. Katju that in this very important matter we should forget all party affiliations and should try to make constructive suggestions for the uplift of our Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is certainly a blot on Hindu religion, it is a scar on Hindu society, it is a great blemish on our nation. What are they asking for? They are not asking for any charity, any gift, any mercy. We have got to do our duty to our oppressed and depressed brothers and sisters. We have got to atone, Sir, for the sins we have committed for centuries. If we do not do that, we have no right to maintain our status as an independent Republic. When that crude and vile attack was made on Acharya Vinoba Bhave, it was an attack not on him, but on the whole Hindu nation, on Hindu religion, on Hindu society. It is a disgrace for every right-thinking man, Sir. The Congress led by Mahatma Gandhi did a lot for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and the Harijans. The great Harijan movement

was to a large extent initiated by him. I belong to an organisation whose cardinal creed is the eradication of untouchability. I recognise, Sir, no distinction between caste Hindus and the so-called Scheduled Castes. Sir, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Lala Lajpat Rai, Swami Shradhdhanand, Babu Ramananda Chatterjee and other great men who held the position which I am temporarily occupying did a lot for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and the Harijans.

The question is this, Sir: have we done our duty? Has the Government done its duty? Have the political parties in India done their duty? General public opinion, the Commissioner has said, in the country is slowly changing in favour of the assimilation of the Scheduled Castes in society. That is, Sir, a hopeful news, and there is a distinct veering of public opinion for the removal of social barriers. I am happy to read, Sir, in this report that this scourge of untouchability is totally absent in Assam, Tripura and Manipur.

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): No, no. It is wrong.

An Hon. Member: Who says?

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Mr. Jagjivan Ram contradicts Mr. Shrikant. Mr. Shrikant, I take it, Sir, has said it after touring those parts and it is a happy news and I think what he has said is, to a large extent, correct.

Now, in West Bengal....

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is not correct. There is untouchability in Tripura, Assam and West Bengal.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): Please get up and say. (*Interruption*).

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: In West Bengal, untouchability is practically non-existent and Scheduled Castes do not consider themselves as untouchable. The general public in some areas treat them as such not because they belong to a particular caste but because they follow certain avocations in life.

Sir, I appeal to the hon. Minister. In spite of repeated declarations, one thing has not been done. Government has not done its duty. The Commissioner is pointing out that up to the end of the year 1952 the Government of India have not moved Parliament for the enactment of a Central legislation for imposing penalties in connection with the practice of untouchability and for other acts which are declared to be offences under Part III (Fundamental Rights) of the Constitution of India. Dr. Katju said that his heart was bleeding for these unfortunate brothers and sisters. If it is really bleeding.....

An Hon. Member: There is no blood.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee:.....kindly introduce Central legislation without delay. What is the explanation for the delay? Nothing has been done.

Dr. Katju: I think it will be published, Sir, early next week—the proposed Bill.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: That shows that the heart was really bleeding.

Sir, there is one other suggestion made. Our lamented friend and colleague, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, just one year back, practically on this very date, in the month of December 1952, made a suggestion on behalf of all the Opposition parties and groups. The suggestion was made in a helpful, constructive and objective spirit. The Commissioner says that that was the best, most helpful and constructive suggestion ever made by any Opposition leader.

"I really admire"—the Commissioner is writing—"the suggestion given by Dr. S. P. Mookerjee while discussing my last Report in Parliament on the 13th December 1952, of calling a Conference of representatives of all parties and groups and all Social Institutions and have a programme of going round the country for a few months and creating a new enthusiasm in the mind of the people that in free India there could be no question of distinction between man and man and that India would prosper

[Shri N. C. Chatterjee]

only if the ideas of inequality became matters of the past".

Nothing has been done, Sir. This constructive suggestion was made. The Commissioner says that it was an admirable suggestion; it ought to be endorsed. I am repeating on behalf of the Opposition that very suggestion which our illustrious friend made. There should be a psychological upsurge, there should be a new venture, there should be a new and radical re-orientation, not merely lip-sympathy in Parliament, to show that you are willing to do something. Show it in concrete terms. Here was a man of outstanding position, a man who occupied very responsible positions in life, both in the Government of India and in the Government of West Bengal, and who was looked upon possibly, Sir, as the outstanding representative of the big Hindu community, suggesting it in the friendliest spirit. We are repeating that offer. Let that all-India representative conference be convened. I am pledging my support and the support of the Opposition groups. I hope, Sir, all parties will join it and create a new tempo in this country. Let them tour the country, especially those areas where untouchability still persists, where social disabilities and persecutions are still there.

The great Rabindranath Tagore tried to whip the conscience of the country in his inimitable style.

*"He mor durbhagya desh. jader
karecha apaman"*

*Apamane hote hobe tader Sahar
Saman."*

"Oh, my unfortunate, luckless country, you will have to go down to that depth of humiliation and national degradation and enjoy that persecution which you have imposed upon your own brothers and sisters for decades and centuries". Our so-called independence, the sovereignty of this great Parliament will be mere myth, mere delusion, mere snare, unless and until we uplift our seven crores of

backward brothers and sisters to whom we have not done justice.

Sir, my suggestions are these:

Why don't you appoint one Minister, additional Minister? Dr. Ambedkar who put the scheduled castes on the political map of India is no longer there. We have our friend Mr. Jagjivan Ram there. We appreciate his services to the community but we are rightly pointing out, Sir,—I am not going into the mathematics or the arithmetic of communal ratio that a community which is numerically much less has got greater representation in the Ministry as Ministers, Deputy Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries. I think, Sir, without going into details that they deserve it. The suggestion of Mr. Rajabhoj deserves consideration at the hands of Pandit Nehru and Dr. Katju.

Then, Sir, why not have one scheduled caste member on the Public Service Commission for India? I am glad to find, Sir, that there has been on recent appointment of a Scheduled Caste member on the Public Service Commission. Why not have it on the different Public Service Commissions both at the Centre and in the States?

Then, Sir, my hon. friend Dr. Katju says, they must have some minimum qualifications and we cannot take risks. We do not want a minimum qualification for appointing a Governor. Why don't you appoint at least one scheduled caste member as a Governor and show that your heart is really bleeding for them? No minimum qualifications are needed and you don't take any risks.

Dr. Katju: What is the suggestion?

An Hon. Member: Appoint a Governor.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: You do not take any risks there. He can preside over indigenous dances and also open oriental paintings. He can also utilise the All India Radio.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Mr. Shrikant has appointed out that the All India Radio has not done its

duty. That has a great educative force and it is a great educative factor. I would also plead with the Home Minister that he should relinquish the so-called minimum qualifications.

There is also great discontent about foreign scholarships and other educational grants. I am prepared to go so far as to say that compulsory primary education up to a certain extent may be confined only to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Don't think of educating anybody else and that alone will lead to the resurgence of India. Veer Savarkar had appealed to the scheduled castes to give up their inferiority complex. I am appealing to my brothers to give up their inferiority complex, and to face the situation boldly, break the social barriers which are imposed upon them improperly, illegally and in infringement of the fundamental spirit of the Hindu religion which we profess. I appeal to them, 'then your voice will be heard, do not cry merely for loaves and fishes and little crumbs which will come from the tables of the Home Minister or the Prime Minister. Stand up boldly and say that there is no right on that part of any one in India to treat you as inferiors and that you are equal citizens entitled to equal rights and to equal participation in the fullest privileges of citizenship'.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Sarangadhar Das; I would suggest to the hon. Member to try to avoid what others have said.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dehkanal—West Cuttack): Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House because many of my friends have already gone over the removal of untouchability and all that. I agree that untouchability should be removed, that efforts should really be made, and legislation should be enacted to make the offence cognizable. But, after hearing the speeches of my scheduled caste friends, I am rather disappointed that the cry generally is for scholarships, stipends, and posts. But, I ask

them how many posts are there that can be distributed amongst the caste people and the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people? Let us say, one lakh of posts, and they get 20,000 out of them. But, what about the crores of people that live in the villages, the inaccessible places where the tribals live, the places which were described by Mrs. Khongmen yesterday. These things have not been touched upon.

My principal grouse against the Government and against the Commissioner's Report is that in Harijan bastis and tribal hamlets there is no drinking water. The Commissioner mentions this in his Report in connection with the teachers that go to teach in tribal areas. They have no amenities; there is no drinking water and they suffer from malaria. It means that the caste people who go there as teachers suffer from these things and that is why teaching is not properly done. He pleads that certain allowances should be given to those teachers; otherwise they are not attracted to those places. That alone shows that the Commissioner himself has in his tours found that there is no drinking water. I consider the provision of drinking water in these places as of primary importance if you want to effect any advancement both of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I have been crying hoarse in various places, here in Parliament as well as with my Government in Orissa, but nothing is being done. Sometimes a few thousand rupees are given to a district board and maybe that 8 or 10 wells may be sunk out of that money. There are hundreds and thousands of places where wells are required—ordinary wells and not the tube-wells that you hear about nowadays.

Then I find that the approach, particularly for the advancement of the tribal people is wrong. The approach that the Government, through the Commissioner, has made is to have *ashram* schools in certain places where tribal children are brought

[Shri Sarangadhar Das]

from 50 or 60 miles away and are taught exactly the same way as we are taught. I consider that it will not take you very long to find out that these children will feel themselves uprooted from their surroundings. They will not want to go back to their villages, to their community because those villages do not have the amenities that they enjoy in these ashram schools. I can remind you of what has happened to us, caste people who have been educated in western ways in towns and cities. Do we want to go back to the villages? Why is it everybody cries nowadays, 'Go back to the villages'? That is what is happening to the tribal people, the tribal children who are taken to these ashrams and are given a certain amount of Hindu culture, Hindu history and Hindu shastras, and this is absolutely wrong. That destroys their spirit of independence, their straightforwardness, their truthfulness and all the good qualities that the tribal people have and that we do not have. All those qualities are destroyed in these ashrams. And, that is why I say that this approach is not at all scientific and that the Government and the Commission should re-think in this matter, and anthropologically adopt a plan for the education of the tribal people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may stop at this stage. He may continue the next day.

4 P.M.

RESOLUTION RE UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up Private Members' Business. Let us now take up the Resolution of Mr. Gopalan.

Any hon. Member on his legs?

Pandit S. C. Mishra (Monghyr North-East): Yes, Sir. I have not yet finished my speech.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Pandit Mishra.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): May I make a submission before that? This discussion has been going on for five days now. How long will this go on?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This has been going on for five days, and as many as 8 hours 22 minutes have been spent already. At the old calculation, it is two full days at the rate of 4 hours per day. Now five days have been spent, and I propose, after Pandit Mishra concludes, calling Mr. Mukerjee, and after that, let us take up the amendments.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट पर तीन घंटे का समय बचता है यह कब होगा ?

मिस्टर डिप्टी स्पीकर : दूसरे दिन होगा ।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, टाइम ज़ादा मिलना चाहिये, बहुत इम्पार्टेंट है ।

मिस्टर डिप्टी स्पीकर : अच्छा, देखेंगे ।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : अच्छी बात है ।

Pandit S. C. Mishra: On the last occasion, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I was saying that grandiose statistics that are very often provided by the hon. Finance Minister are no indication of the employment or the unemployment situation of our country, for the Ministers take into consideration what are called 'coastal statistics' and leave out of consideration completely the picture that prevails in the hinterland, and, therefore, they think that they are providing some new jobs or some new employment, but the new industries oftentimes are throwing out of employment many more people. I will give here only a few figures which

will show how many more people are being displaced for each kind of industry that exists in our country. The latest figures say—

Primary industries other than cultivation, mining and quarrying employ—24 lakhs.

Mining and quarrying industries employ—5 lakhs.

Processing and manufacturing of foodstuffs, textile, leather and products thereof—51 lakhs.

Now, Sir, on this point I wish to say that regarding the industries under the third head, for each one of these industries, for each one who is supposed to be employed, not less than 5 to 10 men are thrown out of employment. Our country has got a kind of economy and our country has got a mode of production prevailing. Our country is not like America; it is not even like Russia. It is not a country like America where they have half as much population as we have and 2½ times as much land as we have. Therefore, if we blindly follow them, the only result will be a huge destruction and, therefore, I want to ask of our Government and the people who manage the State, because I know that the old methods of production cannot now prevail; they shall have to go.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There is too much of talk in the House.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: The only question for consideration before the House is—I appeal to all Members who sit behind the Treasury Benches to consider—whether this change-over from the old methods that existed to the new methods that have to come, cannot be warded off, whether this matter is to be left unplanned or is to be left to be decided by the struggle of what they call 'the strong eating the weak' or whether we can regulate them and put them under

some sort of planning. I had given as an instance the State buses that are being run in towns. I will take another example of the loom industry. Even this day we had a question and we know that our Government is levying a cess to protect the handloom industry, but—I appeal to all my friends once more—have we set up any law in this country, if we want to protect handlooms, that no more new looms shall be allowed to be added in any of the new cloth mills? If we are sincere, we must adopt one of the two courses. It has been accepted and it has also been, I think, tested during all these years of competition that hand weaving is the industry which can, to a very large extent, compete with the mills. They are not easily extinguished and with a little patriotism, with a little help and with a little rationalisation, they can survive. If on the one side we raise some levy and give them some subsidy and on the other we do not put any check on the throat-cutting production by the mills, then the looms cannot survive. I don't mean to say that all the new modes of production that can be brought into existence here have been established now. Then will come the time when we can allow that competition, but before that, if we allow this cut-throat competition, we certainly are not doing any good to our country. I will ask my friends to consider for themselves and to demand of those people whom they have made the managers of the State. Don't take my advice. They might fix some priorities. By priority, I mean, we must now quickly decide whether all the capacity that we have for starting new industries should be allowed to grow unplanned or whether there should be a plan for this purpose. Take the example of the cloth machines. Suppose we say that no replacements shall be made on those machines—if they wear out, let them go out—the capitalists, who have all got back the full value of the machines and got it in their banks in the shape of 'wear and tear account', 'depreciation account' etc., have fully been paid and they are not affected. Now,

[Pandit S. C. Mishra]

let our Finance Minister or this Government make a law that no more investment shall be made on looms and all that money may be invested on iron and steel—iron and steel is an industry of great importance and I know when Mr. Saha gives his advice on it, the reaction on the other side is quick. If he is a scientist, he will be beaten by a rod of common sense. Then they say that he has not got common sense. If he is full of common sense, then somebody will stand up and say that he is not an expert. On this side, if some of our experts talk, then they are beaten by the rod of common sense. If I am a man of common sense, then they say 'you are not an expert'. So you are having it both your own way. Suppose you agree and make your own catalogue and say that anybody investing in any of these categories shall have the full protection of the Government, shall have everything that he will desire, but anybody going out of these categories shall not be allowed to replace the industries. That is still existing somehow in this country.

In my part of the country there is a saying that a half-blind cat—a cat with one eye—will only hunt in the household. Our Indian industrialists are becoming like those one-eyed cats. They only hunt what is existing in our country. I know they do it, and they find it the easiest thing to attack the existing industries and hunt them out. Therefore, if really the Government is serious, and if our friends really consider that we are thinking of creating new employment, then, my suggestion and advice will be that very quickly a schedule should be drawn up by which every farthing, every penny, of capital should be encouraged to be invested there, and the people investing in these industries should have all help from the Government. But, without doing that, what are we doing now? We are having plans for coco-cola, plans for drinks, plans for assembly of cars,

plans for cinemas and plans for so many things—wasteful things. There is no method. Therefore, I say it is not at all planning in the real sense. I know you have taken up some river-valley projects, and perhaps, the State buses. Well, the river-valley projects, so far as they go, are good, but even there, there could have been a difference in the ways that have been adopted. Of course, our neighbour China is also there. Have you not received reports from there that wherever the river-valley projects have been taken up on hand, the bulldozers are being employed for the removal of slush and the men are employed for the rest? How are these bulldozers employed here? If, instead of bulldozers, thousands of people could take up the job. Cannot they be employed? Let the Finance Minister and the Planning Minister realize that work which can be carried out by indigenous methods shall not be carried out by foreign imported machinery. If indigenous methods are adopted, I do not think anything will fail, nor a dam become weaker!

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak): Seven lakhs only on Bhakra.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: I say whether bulldozers are there or not—if they have not bought them, perhaps 14 lakhs of people might have been engaged. Do you think that because seven and odd lakhs of people are employed in the Bhakra-Nangal project, no more people will be required? If that is not your idea, we can employ more people. If your idea is "we are entitled to refuse employment to others," then of course, it is credit to you!

I therefore say, Sir, that unless this question is decided, we cannot progress. The first question is: the new industries should be supplementary and additional—not destructive to the indigenous industries that are already in existence.

I shall make one more suggestion, and that is about the redistribution of

land, as Mr. Rajabhoj suggested. Certainly, so long as the industries do not flourish, land is the biggest asset. Therefore, when the Planning Minister or the Finance Minister says that the redistribution of land will only divide or increase unemployment, I say they are very sadly mistaken. I will give you a few concrete examples. The grow more food campaign was going on for five, six or seven years. Though there is a chart or plan of the wells that have been sunk by the grow more food department,—well, they are only on paper, and I do not say much about that—but I have seen with my own eyes that there have been wells sunk by the grow more food department in various places and yet what has happened? Government said, we will give only 50 per cent. for those wells. Then the result was that only rich men could sink such wells, and now nobody is making use of those wells. I say that wells that have been sunk by the grow more food department are lying idle all over the country. On the other hand, if the proposal of my friend Mr. Rajabhoj or my proposal were taken into consideration, much should have been achieved. If you give just two acres of land roundabout each well to one family of a landless labourer and say, "My friend, in five years you will have this land and the well, but for each year you must give me 20 maunds of such and such produce as you raise." Do you know, Sir, it will work like a miracle? I will finish.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have given you a little more time.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: I will take only two minutes more. I have one more suggestion. I say all countries have created incentives like this, and therefore, if this land could be given to such landless people who work with their own hand and feet, they would be willing to take up the work. If you say to them that such and such a quantity should be produced in five years, ten years, or some such period, and then the land shall become yours, then production shall improve like anything—beyond measure.

Then, one word about unemployment of the educated people. Our Education Minister has found out a good thing. He said that educated people should try to follow their hereditary occupations. Well, he has found that that will be the solution. On the one hand, all the hereditary occupations are being destroyed, and, on the other hand, we have grown sick of our educated people. I say, Sir, that you should take each village as one unit, and, as I have said, for a group of ten acres, one graduate can be employed. But you should give the village some powers. We are having village panchayats, but they have no powers. They are like people who have to be watchers of the property of others. If you give the village panchayat the rights over the property of the village and over the lands that are situated round the village, then things will improve. In that case, each village will at least require one graduate. He can be the foreman of the village, the father of the village or say, a brother of the village. I know that if this is agreed to, lakhs and lakhs of graduates will be found and they will be willing to work like this in the villages.

An Hon. Member: Finally, the master of the village.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: One graduate cannot master a village, but just as you transfer people, let him be there for five or ten years in the first instance, and you can shift him afterwards. There is no question of his becoming a zamindar, but I think educated people can be given good work on the lines suggested by me. With these few words, I conclude.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as I participate in this debate, I notice a strange lack of interest on the part of the treasury benches, and I do not understand how it is that when a vital resolution of this sort is being discussed and the time for discussion is prolonged because of a desire on the part of the majority of this House—I do not understand how, even in those

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circumstances those Ministers who are directly concerned with this matter are not present. I miss, Sir, in particular the very deceptively cherubic presence of the Finance Minister because, I hope, at any rate.....

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): I represent the Finance Minister.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I do not wish to bandy compliments across the floor of this House, or, I would perhaps have been persuaded to say that he is a very good substitute. In any case, I am sorry that Government does not appear to be as interested in this matter as they ought to have been. But one very important purpose has been served in that the attention of the country has been focussed not only on the existence of this problem of unemployment which is so acute that everybody knows all about it, but on the utter ineptitude of the Government of the day which, Sir, had to wait for this resolution to be given notice of before it came forward with an amendment, somewhat surreptitiously, I should say, suggesting that there should be an amendment of the Five Year Plan which was tom-tommed so ardently only the other day. I do not know, Sir, if there is any such precedent in parliamentary history in any other country. The Five Year Plan was a basic document which we discussed in this House only a year ago. The Five Year Plan was to be amended, but Government comes forward with the first intimation of its desire to amend the Five Year Plan only after a non-official resolution was given notice of in this House.

Now, Sir, occasionally official voices have tried to pipe in, to suggest somewhat furtively, that the unemployment problem has been exaggerated, and I think the Finance Minister also has tried, in his charming fashion, to say the same thing. But the cruel fact of the increasing misery of our people is such that we have found acknowledgment of it by the Government repeatedly, particularly in the speech of the hon. Minister for Planning that this

is our problem Number One, this is our major problem. Gruel centres in Madras for migrant weavers, or the fact of unemployment of more than two thousand qualified medical men in West Bengal, unemployment of seamen and air pilots, of trained workers in ordnance factories and shipyards, all these things are so much a matter of common knowledge that nobody can deny the fact of the existence of this very acute malady in our body politic.

It is necessary, Sir, therefore, to try if we can, to find out certain remedies and begin to apply them. And there I say, Sir, that the atmosphere is occasionally sought to be confused by certain references to the problem of over-population. I heard my hon. friend Prof. Sharma the other day saying that the problem of population is the biggest hurdle that we have to cross. Now, Sir, increase of population in this country has not been due, as many of these writers, especially from the United States of America suggest, to some special oriental philo-progenitiveness; it is not the result of Eastern sexuality, or a heathen addition to polygamy.

Now, Sir, the percentage of growth of population in our country has been lower than in the West. India's population increased three-fold between 1750 and 1941. But the population of the United Kingdom in that period increased over five times in spite of large migration. India's rate of increase today is about the same as Holland's. In 1894 Germany's birth-rate was 36, compared to India's 34. Now, Sir, I have found in the *Eastern Economist* an article on 'Unemployment' which says:

"Even granting that all the married people capable of procreation take a solemn pledge today to stop having any children and abide by that pledge, which is obviously impossible, the intensity of the problem will continue for at least two decades, although it may be gradually reduced."

That, Sir, is the position. Who does not want family planning, if we can manage it? But to put the cart before the horse, to beat our breast and to worry our hearts out over this problem is not only unwise but also entirely mischievous; that would just be following certain ejaculations about Asiatic 'gooks' multiplying like rabbits. A supposedly scientific book called "Road to Survival" by a man called Vogt says: "Asiatics breed like rabbits and that is the biggest single problem in the world today".

Following this kind of Western ejaculations if we tell our people who go without food, without clothing, without shelter, that they should practise the refinements of contraception, that is a cruel joke, that is something which our people will not possibly tolerate. This is a matter which is so often forgotten and if we think that the main emphasis should be put on the problem of population, then we are putting the cart before the horse; we are not trying to tackle the problem as we ought to tackle it. We are accepting the logic of these imperialist spokesmen, who want us to be hewers of wood and drawers of water, who want us to be cannon fodder, who want us to be subjects of their exploitation. We have to cut across that ideology; we have to come out of the grip which it has got over us and then and then alone can we solve the problems which are facing us today.

Sir, when the question of unemployment is being discussed, I think first of my own city of Calcutta where scenes are being enacted of destitution, of misery of horror. Whoever goes to that great city can see it for himself. I find, Sir, in an official document, the Report of the Census Superintendent of West Bengal, certain statements which come to me as a revelation, which shows how at last there is beginning to dawn on certain official minds some appreciation of the real problems which confront us today. Now, I am quoting from a fortnightly, or perhaps weekly, called *West Bengal* which is published by the Government of West Bengal and sent

to all Members of Parliament I presume, or at least to West Bengal Members of Parliament. It carries the date 19th November 1953. The Census Superintendent says:

"The Permanent Settlement hangs like a millstone round the neck of this population. Agriculture has become a losing battle, a habit or way of life devoid of hope and improvement. . . .

All this is intimately bound up with land reform and the question of redistribution of land because a stage has been reached when, according to the Land Revenue Commission (1940), palliatives—a little improved seed, a little irrigation, a little extra manure or a little improvement in marketing facilities—will not improve the situation or maintain the improvement for any length of time."

My grouse against the Government is that they are exactly doing these little things, petti-fogging little things and claiming profound appreciation of their wonderful activities!

The Census Superintendent goes on to say:

"A 'shocking revelation' is that the proportion of earners to total population has been declining steadily in agricultural and total livelihoods since 1911. What is more alarming is the almost stationary proportion of the population in non-agricultural livelihoods since 1911, which indicates how the excess population, steadily squeezed out in increasing numbers from agriculture, remains unabsorbed in non-agricultural livelihoods and goes on widening the fearful gap between the total population of employable age and the population employed in earning a living."

He goes on further to say:

"It appears that the old urban centres of industry and commerce have rapidly decayed. The reason

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why the new towns have failed to enrich the country in which they are established, have failed to bring about a satisfactory rural-urban inter-dependence, to contrive true and comprehensive points of contact between rural and urban combines, but instead have helped to perpetuate a dualistic economy, is far too obvious to make a mistake about. It is the domination of foreign capital."

Writing in *West Bengal* the Census Superintendent of that State has said that the domination of foreign capital and the land system of the country are the two main reasons which have brought about our present distress. When we, Sir, talk about domination of foreign capital, a laugh arises in certain quarters in this House. But I tell you, Sir, it is very important for us to go down and find out what exactly are the difficulties that we are facing. It is no good merely tinkering with the problem as we are going on doing all the while. That is why, Sir, I want the Government of the day to turn their attention to the really drastic and fundamental problem.

Now, Sir, as far as professional economists are concerned, academic economists who want to follow the old way of thinking and of acting, there is the opinion of Dr. Matthai, who speaking a few days ago at a Commerce Graduates' Association somewhere said that what was needed today was a very comprehensive recasting; what the Government has succeeded, however, in doing is to start, to rake up a new quarrel, so to speak, between the private sector and the public sector, to start again the hare of a new controversy which they cannot solve between the interests of large scale industry and small scale industry. We find also Government having already brought about a contradiction between the interests of the Indian producer and the Indian consumer. This you can see in the con-

troversy over the question of things like soap, which the Indian Soap Manufacturers' Association want to be protected against the depredations of foreign capital. And then again, Sir, there is a conflict over agrarian reforms, especially in regard to the question of ceiling in regard to land holdings. I found also something that is very fantastic, which is almost impossible to believe could happen in any country, in any ordered Government. I find, Sir, that Shri (he used to be a Knight of the British Empire) V. T. Krishnamachari, who is Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission, said that "it is commonly felt that owing to welfare legislation labour costs have increased, with no corresponding increase, rather decrease in output, and that the diversion of surplus labour in some fields into useful directions has become impossible. This requires careful examination and remedial action". My friend Mr. Giri, I am sure, has made a note of these things. It is a reflection made by the Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission. I do not know, constitutionally speaking, in what relation he stands to Government, and whether he has any right to go about the country making pronouncements which obviously differ from the views of the Cabinet or at least the majority of it, the vocal section. He goes about saying this is what is happening. He tries to placate those interests which are also represented in the House and who come forward and say: give more concessions to the industrialists; give us greater liberty, licence to retrench workers if we choose; take away whatever concessions you have given to workers by means of recent legislation. That is the kind of thing they are saying, and this is what the Vice-Chairman of the national Planning Commission, a person holding a high office, is saying. It is peculiar. It is a kind of thing to be seriously guarded against. It is a thing which flourishes only because there is no real principled approach to this point as far as the Government is concerned. If the Government knew its own mind it

would not have brought about a situation where a crack-up of the entire situation is indicated.

This was again to be found when you, Sir, were actually presiding over the deliberations of the House and the Finance Minister was speaking. And he was giving figures about the number of people employed in certain places. He was almost gloating over it. He never does; at least he would never like his being described as gloating over it. He was giving certain figures, that in the textile industry employment has increased from 819,000 in July to 821,000 in August, an increase of two thousand, three thousand, four thousand and so on and so forth. There was a friend of mine sitting here who is unfortunately not here at the moment. This is God's truth, as the Finance Minister was speaking, I passed on a chit to him where I wrote, what used to be taught to English school children when they were quite young so that they could say it very quickly and their pronunciation might be very clear:

How much wood would a wood-chuck chuck,

If a wood-chuck could chuck wood?

They were asked to say it quickly. When the Finance Minister was saying how much employment you can get in this country if you get it in this way, this is what came to my mind, namely, "how much wood would a wood-chuck chuck, if a wood-chuck could chuck wood"? If Government could provide employment, how much employment it could provide—that was the wonderful speculation that came to my mind. That friend is not here at the moment. Otherwise he would vouch for it.

He said something also about community projects. But he did not say how much of a hoax....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not know if all the "chucks" of the hon. Member have been noted down there by the Reporters!

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur Distt.—South): Sir, he may repeat it once again so that we may hear it.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Sir, I was saying about the hoax of the community projects. And these community projects are being advertised as furnishing much wider volumes of employment. I am quoting from a Bombay journal, the *Economic Weekly* (which has not the slightest suggestion of leftism) which says: How far is the rural welfare scheme going to contribute to the solution of rural employment or add to the volume of useful employment in the villages? What are they going to do? What are the trainees in these community projects, after completing their training or apprenticeship at State expense, going to do? They will require some capital for starting business. And secondly, if they succeed, they will have to market all their products. What are their sources of finance? Where is the market for these goods? All these questions are simply brushed aside. You, Sir, asked some pertinent questions of the Finance Minister on that day. It was said that Bhakra-Nangal is employing so many or the D. V. C. is employing so many. But what exactly is going to happen afterwards? Are you really laying the foundations for a sound economy so that we can develop in the right way? But of course nothing of that sort was done. I am sorry, Sir, I have a few more things to say and I would ask your indulgence for a little more allocation of time to me.

I know that as far as we are concerned there are certain long-term remedies which we have in view. And those long-term remedies naturally will not be supported by the Government of this day. But, as Lord Keynes once said, in the long run we are all dead, particularly the unemployed who will die earlier and faster. We came with certain short-term remedies, and they are roughly these. We said, allocate fifty crores of rupees as relief. This was ridiculed as 'dole'. You know, Sir, the history of unemployment insurance in England or

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other countries. Workers pay out of their own pocket as insurance money, they get it back in times of unemployment. And yet it is called a 'dole'. That is the kind of expression of ridicule which they use in order to put a wrong interpretation on the whole thing. We say this is relief. Give us relief. When Mr. Giri brought forward that Bill in pursuance of that Ordinance regarding the ban on retrenchment in the textile mills or when the ban on retrenchment as a whole came forward, when the question of compulsion of mills to pay a certain sum of money for involuntary employment came up, we supported it. It did not go far enough, but we supported it. What is wrong in giving relief when the need for relief comes first? You might say: where is the money going to come from? There is money galore, I should say, if you know where to look.

With Krupps-Demag, the German combine, we have entered into an agreement. On the 18th of September the *Eastern Economist* wrote: "It seems incredible that the consultants' fee of Rs. 2,10,00,000 is to be paid in this case for technical knowledge on processes old, well-tried and fully available within the country." This sum of Rs. 2,10,00,000 could have been paid easily into Indian hands. We did not do it. There is the matter of privy purses for the Princes. Five crores and eighty lakhs of rupees are represented by the privy purse. There can be a cut there. There are the Income-tax investigation results. They could be pursued properly. We could get a lot of money. There are safe deposit vaults all over the country in big trading centres. We can lay our hands on them. In the Tata-Birla Plan it was said: There is Rs. 1,000 crores of hidden money in the country; out of that if we could get Rs. 300 crores, etc. This was said in 1944. If they could get Rs. 300 crores of hidden money in 1944, surely they ought to get Rs. 1,200 crores in 1953. But they do not do anything of that sort.

It is our responsibility. It is Government's responsibility to find out where the money gets hidden and ferret it out and use it for purposes which are necessary for the sake of the country.

Then we say: ban retrenchment altogether, ban closure. Government has moved half-heartedly, very timidly, very hesitantly, possibly because of the V. T. Krishnamacharis in their camp. Anyhow Government has moved somewhat. You should go full steam ahead if you stand for the interest of the people. Put a moratorium on all peasant debts. Sir, the Deputy Finance Minister is nodding his head approvingly. Put a moratorium on peasant debts. You will get some kind of relief as far as these people are concerned. Let there be a ceiling on monopolist profits, foreign as well as Indian, at 6½ per cent. Go back and recall the days of 1948 and your own Industrial Policy. Then you will realise that there is nothing very foolish, nothing very lunatic in this suggestion. Why do I say this? I say this because, I find this from *Capital*, *Commerce*, *Eastern Economist* and all that kind of papers. The Bengal Coal company, run by Andrew Yule & Co., has a paid-up capital of Rs. 1,20,00,000. In five years 1945—49, its net profit amounted to Rs. 3,10,00,000. Its latest annual profits were more than 50 lakhs. I find there is a company called The Indian Cable Co., Ltd., run by foreigners. Its total share capital is Rs. 166.77 lakhs. Its reserve fund is Rs. 50 lakhs and other funds 55 lakhs. In the year ending 31st March 1953, its gross profits amounted to Rs. 1,04,23,881. This is how they make their money. I see, in the year 1951, the foreign banks made a profit of Rs. 319 lakhs, more than half the total profits made by all Indian Banks including the Imperial Bank, which is not an Indian Bank at all. This is the way in which foreign people are behaving and they have credited only Rs. 196 lakhs of their net profits to their respective countries in 1951. Look at the reserves of the jute mills.

I remember making in this House a quotation which was sought to be countered by the Finance Minister, but which he could not. An article in *Capital* in 1951 said that in a good year, in a well organised year, the jute companies could make a net profit of 50 crores. That is perhaps impossible according to the present set-up. But, this is what they say: provided things were run properly, and everything was oiled properly, they could make a profit of 50 crores. Most of them are foreigners, almost all of them, the people who have been exploiting our country, for how long, we do not know. That exactly is the situation which has been going on for long, which we cannot tolerate now.

These are some of the suggestions which were given: put a ban on repatriation of foreign companies profits. Then, of course, we shall go ahead really, truly and properly. Of course, let us have road and rail development. Let us open out areas like Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Bharat. You know, Sir, from the producer to the consumer, the prices increase by 25 per cent., people have told me, because of lack of transport. Government talks about increase in food production, and industrial production. But, what is all this increase? Why not have more basic industries? In regard to this, the Chairman of the Railway Board, Shri Badhwar made a statement on the rolling stock position of Indian Railways during 1954-60 only the other day. He said: "notwithstanding the very acute shortages of material, particularly steel, and the almost complete lack of supporting industries in the country", Railways are doing well. There is shortage of steel; there is complete lack of supporting industries in this country. If this is the position, go ahead with basic industries. Then, naturally, the possibilities of employment would increase; they would expand beyond recognition.

I see that from time to time Government says some very good things. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the other day,

said somewhere: we should be completely dependent on ourselves. But, I say this is callous cynicism in action, and a sort of sanitimonious sentimentalism in words. That is what you are doing. There is employment in plenty for those people who somehow get on the right side of certain people in authority. I have here,—I am sorry to have to ask for your indulgence for a little more time—material supplied to me by the Minister for Commerce and Industry which suggests that there is in Bombay a Director in the office of the Textile Commissioner who is not even a matriculate, and who has no technical qualifications. I can give his name; the materials are all here, supplied by the Minister for Commerce and Industry. Employment is found for this sort of people. Employment is not found for the masses of our people, who are really great-hearted and who are prepared to go down the pits and mines. They work there because they have to keep the wolf from the door. They are ready to go; but you don't give them bread; you give them stone instead. That is why I warn the Government. This is what the *Eastern Economist* has written in a leading article: the age of impatience has begun. The age of impatience has begun today in point of space in Calcutta, which city I happen to represent in this House. The age of impatience has begun and the misery of our people is such that you can no longer play with them. Suffering is no longer the badge of our tribe. Because you are in the Chair, Sir, I am reminded of what I read in the *Udyoga Parva* of the *Mahabharata*, where the sage Samvara says:

पतिपुत्रवधादेतत् परमं दुःखमश्वीत् ।
वारिद्र्यमिति यत् प्रोक्तम् पर्यायमरणं हि तत् ।

"Patiputravadhadetat paramam
dukkhamabraveet

Daridryamiti yat proktam paryaya-
maranam hi tat."

Poverty is a degradation and a disease; it is death by degrees. "Paryayamaranam" is something which is even

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worse to women than the death of the husband or son. That is the way in which our ancients looked upon poverty. They hated poverty because it brought degradation along with it. That is why I say that we should go ahead with these ideas which will inspire real activity in the cause of the people. We should have the feeling which the poet expressed, "the misery of the world is misery and will not let them rest". That is why I say that our people will not rest till the footling little pretenders to power over our people are pushed off the pedestals of oppression which they occupy so ostentatiously today.

Shri Raghuramalah (Tenali): Before you call upon another speaker, Sir, may I make a small submission? This question has already been debated at length. I beg to move:

"That the question be now put."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is an amendment: No. 30 by Shri C. D. Deshmukh. I will put it to the House.

The question is:

That for the original Resolution, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House is greatly concerned over the growing unemployment in the country and is of opinion that, with a view to increasing employment opportunities in the country, Government should take steps to revise the Five Year Plan suitably and to adopt immediately such measures as are necessary for the purpose."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is in substitution of the original Resolution. All the other amendments are barred. They are all to the original Resolution. Nothing more is to be done. The new

Resolution takes the place of the old Resolution. The House will now take up the next Resolution. Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur Distt.): May I raise a point of order at this stage, Sir? The point is that it is the practice of the House that no Resolution should be carried over to another session if the session is prorogued. The Constitution lays down in article 107 that a Bill pending in Parliament shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of the House. That is, if a Bill is pending, it shall not lapse, all other business shall lapse. Our Rules of Procedure lay down....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the point of order?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: The point is that an exception has been made in this case. This Resolution has been carried over from the 4th to the 5th session irrespective of the fact that the 4th session was prorogued. I submit that this practice should not be allowed because this has been only an exception. In support of my point of order....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I respectfully say to the hon. Member that he has missed the bus? It is too late. We have carried the Resolution. There has been enough discussion for over 5 days, when he could have raised the point of order. Any point of order should be raised then and there. Whether any gentleman is speaking or in possession of the House or not, it is immaterial. As soon as a point of order is raised, all other business of the House will be suspended until the point of order is disposed of. That is the importance of a point of order. We have finished this Resolution. We are taking up another Resolution and I have called upon Shri D. C. Sharma to move his Resolution. In between, what is the point of order?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What I want to submit is this. There are other Resolutions which are pending in this House

and if possible, these resolutions may again be carried over. Therefore I want to suggest that no other resolution which may be pending should be allowed to be carried over to the next session if there is prorogation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member will wait with patience until some other resolution is carried over to the next session. Then he can raise the point more emphatically and with renewed vigour and show to the House that it is out of order. The Chair is not called upon to give rulings hypothetically. There is no case now before the House. Let us proceed. The hon. Member will have his chance when another resolution is carried over like that. He can then make a submission and leave it to the Chair. The matter will be discussed. Now, Shri D. C. Sharma.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPLICATION
OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT
TO JOURNALISTS**

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): I rise to move my Resolution which I believe, Sir, every Member of the House knows already. But, Sir, while doing so....

Sari M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur Distt.): Please move the Resolution.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that all journalists in the employ of newspaper organisations in the country should be brought within the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (XIV of 1947), which may be amended, if necessary, for the purpose."

While moving this Resolution, I think, I run three risks. In the first place, it may be said that by moving this Resolution I am playing to the gallery.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I may submit, Sir, that all my life I have belonged to a profession where my business has been to play to the benches, and to

very few benches, Sir. When I look at the many benches in this House, I feel very nervous because I am not used to so many benches. Therefore, Sir, as a teacher I cannot be expected to do anything of that kind.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Are you accustomed to empty benches?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I have been a good teacher all my life and my students have always come to my lectures in very large numbers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the other day—I think it was yesterday—I read a speech by a very eminent person in this line, who, while referring to a question in the other House, said that it had been stage-managed. I think, Sir, these words are very unfortunate and they cast some kind of reflection on Parliament. I can assure you that this Resolution which I have put forward cannot smack of anything of that kind. It is not at all stage-managed. It is, if at all, ballot-managed. If at all, it is destiny-managed. If anything at all, I think it is God-managed. It is the luck of the ballot that has brought this Resolution to the top, and therefore I think I am perfectly justified in moving this Resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has taken three minutes in this preamble.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, how many minutes you will give me?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Fifteen minutes.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I am so sorry. I thought I had ample time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. I will give him 20 minutes, because he is the Mover.

Shri S. S. More: Speak to him in the terms of columns because he is discussing journalism.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I have my reasons for moving this Resolution, and it is this: In the first place, I am haunted by the memory—very sad memory—of a student of mine who took to journalism. He was, if I may

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say so, a journalist on horse-back, a dashing, vigorous journalist, full of initiative and he used to live well and he used to entertain well. I thought everything was all right with him, but suddenly he fell ill and he suddenly died. And after his death I found that he had left his family in utter destitution, with the result that his widow went mad after about one month of his death. And the memory of that young friend of mine, that young student of mine, has haunted me all these days, because it has brought vividly to my consciousness the practical risks of a journalist's life, the hardships involved in a journalist's life, the kind of life which he lives—a life which is fraught with so many hazards and so many uncertainties.

Again, Sir, I think, while speaking about these journalists, I cannot but have a feeling of gratitude for them because I know the noble part that they played when this country was fighting for independence. I do not want to mention the names of some journalists, but I can say that some of them worked more for the cause than for any pittance. They worked with a missionary zeal for the cause of independence, and I believe, Sir, that ingratitude is not one of the qualities for which we Indians are noted; and therefore, it behoves us to show some kind of gratitude to those persons who were valiant fighters, who fought with us shoulder to shoulder when the struggle of independence was on.

I was reading a book on journalism only the other day, and there I came across a quotation which showed me how the struggle for giving the journalist a right social and economic status had been fought in a country like the United Kingdom which we very often take as our model for doing things. What did that gentleman write?

"Time was—and not so very long ago—when journalism had but little claim to the title of a profession. The status of those

who followed the calling was low in the social scale and the attitude of the public, especially the official element, towards the working journalist was, at best, a lukewarm tolerance, and at worst, an overt hostility.

The pay of the newspaperman was generally just above the breadline level and working conditions, in many cases, had all the stigma of sweated labour. The aura of Grub street was still about the pressman.

It was from such a scratch start as this that the great crusade to raise the economic and social status of journalists began some thirty-five years ago, when a group of practical visionaries got together and founded the National Union of Journalists."

So, when I came across this quotation I thought this was in many cases on a par with the conditions that prevail in India at present. The aura of Grub street, I beg to submit most respectfully and without meaning offence to anybody, is around these working journalists.

But I do not want to quote from other books. What I mean to say is this. I have seen something with my own eyes. Recently the Indian Federation of Working Journalists celebrated their day, and this Federation of Indian working journalists has about 2,000 members. This day was celebrated all over India, and they wanted that there should be recognition. They observed the All-India Federation of Working Journalists Day on the 27th September, 1953, and all Unions passed a Resolution to the effect that journalists should be recognised as workers. Their Resolution was supported by the Trade Unions in Delhi, and copies of the Resolution were sent to the Prime Minister and to the other hon. Ministers including the Minister for Labour. If 2,000 persons who are responsible for educating public opinion in this country and who are doing so much

to raise the level of public life in this country demand this, I do not see any reason why their demand should not be met.

5 P.M.

We are familiar with what happened when the "Times of India" case was discussed, I think, here as also elsewhere. The "Times of India" case showed that about 200 journalists were given notice and it was said at that time that the journalists would be treated on a par with other persons who are described as workers just as lino-type machine workers and other workers. But, what happened was this, that the Industrial Tribunal gave an award that only lino-type operators and other persons will be treated in that way and that these persons—the working journalists—would not be given that status. It was stated that the working journalist would be given some kind of compensation. But it was not done. Then, an assurance was given on behalf of the employers that even if the Tribunal had not given a verdict in their favour, the employers would do it. But what happened was this. That assurance was cast to the winds, it was not honoured. Here I have a copy of a letter written by the "Times of India" (Calcutta Edition), to a working journalist saying that he cannot be paid any compensation.

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): I may state that it may be an individual case into which I am looking. But in all other cases, they have honoured the understanding.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I am very glad to hear that in all other cases, they have honoured that assurance. But I am pleading now for the exception.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): Why this individual exception?

Shri V. V. Giri: I am looking into the matter.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not want that there should be any exception. Here is the copy of the letter with me

I know also something about the demands of the P.T.I. workers. I was present at the meeting when they made their demands. I was not the only Member of Parliament present there, other Members of Parliament were also present there, so it will not be thought that I was enjoying some special privilege there. The 'Demand Day' was observed on August 3rd of this year, and I found that about a thousand workers were interested in that demand. The speeches that were made on that day, were revealing in this respect that they showed us the shocking conditions under which the P.T.I. workers were working. I was really shocked at the banner that was put there. I had not expected for a moment that these workers would have a banner of that kind. And what was that banner like? It was 'Long Exploited P.T.I. Employees Demand Fair Wages'. I could have expected this kind of a banner at some other kind of meeting, but I was simply amazed to find this kind of a banner at a meeting of the P.T.I. workers.

I have also got with me a copy of the appeal which was issued on that occasion. I do not want to read through it now, because the time at my disposal is very short, but I shall just give a few of the items mentioned in that appeal, which are as follows:

"...We have no definite system of recruitment. Most of the employees do not have any letters of appointment, there are no grades, there is no system of promotion; increments are given by the fancy of the management.... There are no leave rules, no retirement terms.... There is great disparity in the emoluments of people doing the same work.... Mofussil centres are understaffed... Sometimes, we do not have a clean place of work... medical facilities are almost non-existent.... a dormitory for night duty men is a luxury limited to one or two officers..."

I do not want to give you this catalogue of the grievances of the P.T.I.

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

workers. That is what has come to my notice, and what I have seen with my own eyes. Why is all this happening?

When I was at Lahore, we had once a debate in the Y.M.C.A., at Lahore, over which the late Mr. B. G. Horniman presided. The debate was on the subject "Is Journalism an art or an industry?". Both points of view were expressed, but today I find that journalism may be an art for the starving journalist, it may be an art for the underfed reporter, it may be an art for the newspaperman, but it is an industry for those people who control the press at this time. As to who those people are, I do not want to go into their names now. But who are the people that are controlling our newspapers? They are industrialists. And what is their motive? I do not want to impute any motives to anybody. But from what I have heard, and from what I have seen, I find that they are running the newspaper industry, just as they run sugar mills or jute mills or anything of that kind. And why? It is because they have money power in their hands.

There are so many other cases, but I do not want to go into all those cases here. There was some trouble in the 'Leader' office at Allahabad; there was some trouble in the 'Amrit Bazar Patrika' office also, and similarly there was trouble in the other cases also. In all these troubles, it was always the poor journalist who suffered. Some of the journalists have suffered so grievously that their miseries cannot be described here. I do not want to play upon the sentimental and pathetic stop in this House. I want only to present facts.

Why are we not treating our journalists with more sympathy? I do not want that we should treat our poor journalists in this manner. Let us try to find some light from other countries—of course, we have enough light within our own country, but it will be very interesting to see what is

happening in other countries. For instance, in the United Kingdom, I have heard it for it has been brought up before me that there is the U.K. National Union of Journalists, and no journalist can be dismissed unless some kind of an agreement is arrived at between the employer and the Union. So far as U.S.A. is concerned, the labour laws apply to journalists also, and the APA has an agreement with the proprietors which governs the wage structure of the employees and other service conditions, such as allowances for reporters, cycle allowances etc. In Australia, which is a neighbouring country, they have passed a law in this respect, which has been improved upon from time to time, and under which minimum wages have been laid down for journalists; there is provision for regular increments, for provident fund facilities, for sick leave etc. In this way, there is provision for so many facilities for journalists in other countries. But what facilities do our journalists enjoy in our country? What facilities have we provided for them?

Often people talk about the journalists as the fourth estate. But there are only two estates in India, one the employers, and the other the workers, whether it be teachers, journalists or anybody else. I know we teachers are very quiet and humble people, but I find that even we have started forming a trade union. I do not see any reason why there should only be these two estates, the estate of those who employ, and the estate of those that are employed.

Again, in France, they have legislation of a similar kind for the journalists, providing for regular wages as well as increments. Even in smaller countries like Argentina, they have provisions to make the life of journalists comfortable. Here, I am not asking for comfort, but rather competence for life for our journalists, and if they get it, I will be very happy. I want that they should live in competence, if not in comfort. I do not

want any affluence for them, I do not want any comfort for them, but I want that they should have competence. They should live above that kind of level which I would call the level of precariousness.

I know that our hon. Labour Minister is a trade unionist of very long standing, and I know also that he has no end of sympathy with all those people who are trade unionists. I know that he gives them wonderful piece of advice. He is telling them, well, you should try to talk things across the table with your employers. I know talking things across the table with people does good, but I am sorry to say that it does not help the starving journalist who leads such a precarious life.

He also said to them: 'You go to the Tribunal'. But how can they go to the Tribunal? They should go to the Tribunals after leaving their jobs, because Tribunals will have to be found all over the state of India, and if they do that, I am sure that most of them will be losing their jobs.

Again, Sir, it has been said that this matter is before the Press Commission and it would be taken up by them. But I see, Sir, a desperate situation and I speak with some kind of knowledge extending over so many years. I would say that any kind of delay in the solution of this problem would be detrimental not so much to journalists but to the cause of public life in India and to all those causes for which we stand.

I know, Sir, it will be said that a comprehensive legislation would be brought forward. I would be very glad if a comprehensive legislation is brought forward in which the legitimate demands of these journalists are met. But

تا تریاق از عواقب آورده شود -

مارکذیده مرده بود

I would say, Sir, it is a Persian proverb which I think my hon. friend,

Maulana Masuodi, will be able to translate much better than I. But it only means this, that you cannot wait indefinitely for the panacea that you have promised. By the time the panacea comes, the patient, I think, will be in some other world and not in this world. That is the crude and rough translation of that proverb. So I would appeal to the Labour Minister who is so sympathetic to all workers.

I would appeal to the hon. Minister to bring forward an Amending Bill to include journalists amongst workers under the Industrial Disputes Act. If it is not possible now because we are at the fag end of the session, I would say that he should promulgate an Ordinance. I say so, Sir, for this reason only. Missingham who was Editor of the *New Statesman and Nation* had said: A journalist—and I think our journalists in India are fine people—is not only an educator. He said: the newspaper is a kind of evening continuation class. We all get our knowledge, our information, from these newspapers. And I think, Sir, unless we give them the right kind of treatment, we will not do well. I would say that there are two professions in India which should be honoured—teachers and journalists,—because both of them educate the public. But I find that both of them are being neglected.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would therefore again request the Labour Minister to look into this case as sympathetically as he looks into other cases and do something to end the wrong under which these persons are suffering, to put an end to the disabilities from which these journalists suffer and to put an end to the hardships to which they are put. By doing so, we would be laying the foundations, right foundations, of public life in India. By doing so, we will be laying the foundation of a prosperous India. With these few words, I move my motion.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am placing the motion before the House first. Resolution moved:

"This House is of opinion that all journalists in the employ of newspaper organisations in the country should be brought within the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (XIV of 1947), which may be amended, if necessary, for the purpose."

I say this for the consideration of hon. Members. I will give preference to working journalists and journalists first and then call upon others who are interested.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I am a working journalist.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri S. S. More: Are we to make a declaration about our journalism? (Interruptions).

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Alva.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we politicians and those that fleet across the stage of Parliament and public life...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Ten minutes each.

Shri Joachim Alva: Yes, Sir. But kindly give 15 minutes to me. We seem to be like painted dolls forgetting the men who are behind the stage, our men who work all the 24 hours, day or night,—I mean the journalists, the journalists who work with the midnight oil, who is ready to get up at 2, 3 or 4 or 5 A.M. to produce his copy and the man who writes his report regardless of his comforts—whether personal or transport or family—which is printed. We seem to be completely indifferent to their comforts in life, to their family comforts, to the comforts of their children or their own homes or their tenements. And even in this city of Delhi we seem to be completely indifferent, when the foreigner comes and takes

away the most luxurious flats for himself when the journalist has to go abegging for the quarters which are his due and his right.

Sir, the state of Indian journalism is parlous, while the state of journalism in countries of the Far East like Japan, or in the West in America or right in the heart of Moscow—that of *Pravda*—is in the most comfortable and prosperous condition. We seem to neglect altogether the Indian language Press which will be the most powerful section of the Indian Press, while the English section of the Indian Press is the wealthiest. But be that as it may, the future is of the Indian language Press when we shall have in this country in 10 or 15 or 20 years hence journals which shall command a circulation 10 million which will be the highest in the world, higher than the Moscow *Pravda* or the New York *Daily News* or the London *Daily Express* or the *Minachi* of Japan—these dailies being the ones commanding the largest circulation in the world.

And today what is happening in India? There is a future either for the yellow Press or for the Press controlled by the lords of the Press who make all their money by black-marketing or by ill-gotten gains out of huge business.

Shri Altekar (North Satara): And crosswords.

Shri Joachim Alva: There is no place for clean journalism. There seems to be no place in India for clean journals devoid of sensationalism, scandal, blackmail or defamation, which are educating the public for the future—not in the security of our armed forces we will be having a future—where these specimens of character are absent. Today we are neglecting the comforts and perhaps the ordinary decencies of journalists, who seem to be not cared for, while every workman, whether he be a clerk or a quill-driver or a printer or operator or lino-type man is protected by the Industrial Disputes Act. Sir, it is

high time—in fact it is too late in the day—to ask that journalists be included in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, under which all the other types of workers, as I have described, are protected. The day when journalism was, as my hon. friend in his very impressive speech said, a vision seemed to be past and gone when the money-lords invaded it in 1947 with their bags of money made out of black-marketing during the war. As I said—and I repeat it and I shall not be tired of repeating it—our Press today is dominated either by the yellow Press which lives on sensationalism or by the barons who have by all kinds of business profits set apart a certain amount of profits for getting their papers going, by transferring those profits into this business. These barons do not stop with running these big newspapers, but they have laid their unholy hands on the national news agencies like the PTI, the PTI which was built on the sweat and toil of great Indians who are no more. They are young men who are of the finest calibre, patriots, hard-working young men who are not given even small comforts in the sense that their employers do not give them what they really deserve, men who sit in the Galleries twentyfour hours and perhaps write the best reports, as even American observers have observed. These are the people who do not get their dues. It was a matter of disappointment to journalists like us or many of us when we saw that the P.T.I. went to a man and made a united demand and he was adamant and said that he would not yield to pressure.

Sir, then again there is another aspect of Indian journalism. I talk of the Indian and Eastern Newspapers Society where there is no admission to any newspaper unless it paid an annual fee of Rs. 1,000. This is the highest fee for the membership of any Club. You cannot become a member of this Club unless you pay a thousand rupees annually as membership fee and the membership shall cease if you fail to pay Rs. 1,000 annually. Because of this high fee the Indian language

papers were kept away from their company and the others grabbed all the profits and advantages for themselves. They tapped all the sources of government themselves during the war and exploited in the matter of hoarding and selling newsprint and making huge profits for themselves. They made big fortunes and the smaller papers who could not pay this Rs. 1,000 per annum as membership fee of the Indian and Eastern Newspapers Society could not run and were not in the parade.

Sir, my hon. friend mentioned the name of B. G. Horniman. He was a great man; he was a man who stirred India during the time of the Amritsar rebellion. It is a great tragedy today that none is coming forward to pay a last tribute to him by putting a slab on his grave in Bombay. These are all facts which we cannot forget. There have been some great journals like the Hindu and the others which have gone on very well and have got a clean record in the sense of running their policy in a clean way—and there are other papers in Bengal and perhaps in Delhi also—I need not name them; they are too few to be known or remembered. Here what the journalists are asking is only the mere right of being included in the Industrial Disputes Act of 1947, so that whenever there is a dispute they may have it referred to a court and have settlement.

But, I shall say one word of warning also, Sir, to the journalists. The journalists must also behave as men of character. They should also be loyal and give their best to their employers. They shall not go on strike, they shall not say we shall stop to do this. Sir, when their patience is really exhausted they shall go before a Tribunal or a Court and demand all the rights to which they are entitled. We journalists on our side have also a duty to the nation; they shall not unnecessarily say that they shall not use their intellectual powers to avoid a kind of situation or strike, that they shall not be lacking in character to rise to the occasion when

[Shri Joachim Alva]

great national duties are to be performed. If there is a general strike, they shall not fail to supply the news, when there is communal frenzy or when there is national jeopardy. they shall not fail in their duty if these terms are given to them.

Sir, I shall say that the demands of the journalists are just, reasonable and fair and they are the most minimum demands, the most minimum that they have made upon the House in a spirit of unanimity. After all is said and done, we came here as the result of the great part played by Indian journalism, by journals all over the land, especially the journalists who plied their pens in the Indian languages. To them we shall give a tribute of praise. They have made so much contribution, either in Malayalam, Tamil, Marathi, or Hindi or Bengali or any one of those languages of India. They wrote their fiery editorials and stirred the masses of India. They caught the imagination of people who did not know a word of English; they made a great contribution to our national cause. These journalists today are making a humble demand. The whole matter is under investigation by the Indian Press Commission. But I wonder what sort of research they would be able to make. The Indian Press Commission is full of men of character and standing and position and yet perhaps they may throw up their hands in despair and may not be able to propose the results we expect unless the state of economy of this country is collectivised and made strong into a Corporation. We should have no more journals to be owed by private individuals, 500 of them sought to be owned by 5 individuals. So long as that state of economy continues, there is no hope. In the streets of Moscow they have been able to build a great national organisation, the *Pravda*. We shall also have to think in terms of that; our organisation should be controlled by the State; then alone we shall aim at the welfare of society; at the welfare of the masses

and it should not be in the hands of few.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswami: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I make a few remarks on this important resolution, let me congratulate my hon. friend Prof. Sharma who brought this resolution. It is most timely, most appropriate and most urgent and I am glad he has focussed the attention of the House on this important problem.

Sir, I come from the journalistic world; I know the conditions of journalists and I know how they are looked after by their proprietors. So, I can say with some authority what exists in the press world today. Sir, all of us know that the Press represents the fourth estate in a State and if this fourth estate is to be established on the highest pedestal, if it is to be able to draw the attention of the intellectual classes, if it is to work and if it is to exist as a profession, then the people who are responsible for running the Press must be well looked after.

Sir, the nobility of any profession depends upon the nobility of the people who work in that profession and the nobility of the people who work in that profession depends mainly upon the proper conditions that prevail in that profession. Unfortunately, Sir, the conditions which are prevailing in the Press—both in the language as well as in the English Press—are far from satisfactory. This profession is most subject to humiliation throughout. People who are working there have been continually subjected to harassment, victimisation and lot of misery. Unless the journalists are freed, unless freedom is granted to them or brought to them from these degrading conditions, it is very difficult to expect the journalists to perform their functions nobly and seriously.

Sir, my hon. friend who just now spoke began to teach journalists; he began to say that the journalists' character should improve. He said

they should not resort to strike and all sorts of things. Sir, as a proprietor he has said so.

Shri Joachim Alva: I am no more a proprietor.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Anyway you carry the spirit of proprietorship in you. I know that journalists have been treated unfairly throughout by the proprietary interest. If there is any class in India which has been subjected to extreme indignities, ill-treatment, harassment and degradation, it is this one profession.

Sir, what are we asking today. We are only asking that journalists may be treated as the working class. They deserve more than that treatment. They are not heally ordinary workers. They are the cream of society; they are the architects of intellectual of India. They have to gather news and express opinions; they are in true sense the moulders of public opinion. Sir, we know in the recent past what role they have played in India. The role that the journalists have played is much better than the role played by the politicians. I regard journalists and politicians as husbands and wives. One cannot exist without the other.

An Hon. Member: Who is the husband and who is the wife?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: If you want to be a wife you can be a wife; or if you want to be a husband; you can be a husband. It is left to the choice of the people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But there are a number of unmarried people.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What I mean is that both politicians and journalists go hand in hand. We often see the politicians moving about in a friendly way with the journalists when they are attached to a particular Press. But when the journalists are out of profession, if they are retrenched, if they are sent out, the politicians do not talk to them; they do not recognise them even. Sir, it is very unfortunate; politicians must

also learn; their character should also improve.

Our treatment to journalists must improve and that is a responsibility of the House as the custodian of the interests of all classes and particularly of the intellectual class which the journalists represent. We should safeguard their interests first and foremost. I have got several cases with me to show that there has been complete maltreatment and harassment of the journalists in India. There was a particular Assistant Editor who was working in 'Searchlight' and he happened to go and give evidence before the Press Commission. Merely because he went there to give his evidence, he was asked to go to Calcutta to report himself there as a correspondent. The post of an Assistant Editor is regarded to be higher than that of a correspondent—of course, I am not making a distinction—but he was immediately asked to go to Calcutta and no increment, no extra allowance was given to him; otherwise he was threatened with retrenchment.

Shri M. P. Mishra (Monghyr North-West): No, he was dismissed.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: He was dismissed, but then he was reinstated. These conditions are humiliating to the journalists. I know another case from the South, where a particular gentleman who was working in a Press came to tender his evidence before the Press Commission—it was part and parcel of his official duty—but he was marked absent in his office for that period and he was not given any pay and the treatment meted out to him was thoroughly bad.

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Distt—East): Which was that paper?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I do not want to name the paper, but it is enough if you know that such bad conditions are prevailing in the press in India. Unless we take concrete steps in this matter, it is very difficult for our pressmen to exist. We should see that our pressmen are placed well in life.

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

Regarding the P. T. I., I think the less said the better. The P. T. I., has become a repressive agency. I am making this statement with a certain sense of responsibility. I know what is going on behind the P. T. I. We are talking of the iron curtain of Russia, but here in the P. T. I., there is an iron curtain; it exists there and the proprietary interests who are sitting in the P. T. I., are oppressive and arrogant and are humiliating the working journalists who are doing their duty—no good treatment, no good service conditions, no scale of promotion, no retrenchment benefit, nothing of the kind is given to them. The same conditions, of course, prevail in all the presses in India, and unless we take very drastic steps in this regard, it is very difficult to expect the Indian press to fulfil its role in society. Some questions may be asked in this connection by hon. Members—there is a Press Commission which is investigating and making its report by March or so and so let us wait. But we cannot wait, we have waited so long and moreover, it is not necessary to wait because you know that in the other House a few days back, they discussed about the matter of indecent advertisements which appeared in various papers and they thought that they should take immediate steps to prevent such advertisements. Also, there is a Press Act, the life of which the Government is seriously considering to extend. When we are taking all these steps before the report of the Press Commission, why can we not also take this step and make all the journalists come under the operation of Industrial Disputes Act. After all, they are not asking much; they are not asking impossible things. They have only to be called, as workers. I may submit that the definition of the Industrial Disputes Act must be enlarged or modified to bring all the journalists under its scope. It is very necessary and it is a very simple amendment. I do not see any serious difficulty in this matter and we need not

wait for the Press Commission's report to make an amendment like this. It is necessary that we should promote trade unionism in the journalistic world. Unless journalists are organised on a trade union basis, unless they co-operate with each other, unless they are made to co-operate with each other, unless they are sure that such co-operation means definite advantages, how can they expect to progress or even exist? We should impress upon the journalists that if you co-operate and run your organisation on a co-operative or trade union basis, such and such benefits will follow. Certainly, Sir, they are now organising themselves and in fact, they have already organised themselves in that manner, but they expect us to make a legislation so as to make them get these advantages. The only thing that is necessary for the journalists today is that they should be free from want, they should be free from insecurity and that employment should be assured to them, and unless we assure them all those, we cannot expect them to play a noble role of such great importance. Let us create such conditions, let us give them decent treatment and let us do this simple task of including all the journalists in the category of 'workmen'. Unless the legislators who are sitting here, unless the Labour Ministry which is guarding the interests of labour, both intellectual and manual, give directive and advice and interfere in matters of management and treatment by proprietors, it will be very difficult to get economic justice to journalists in India. We want economic justice to working journalists and we do not want this state of flux or indefiniteness or uncertainty to continue any longer. So, I request the hon. Minister to accept this Resolution and on the basis of the Resolution, to amend the Act.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Dwivedi. He has given notice of an amendment.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I beg to move:

That in the Resolution, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and in order to give effect to this at an early stage, the Press Commission be requested to submit an interim report by the 15th of January, 1954.”

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करते हुए और इस अपने संशोधन को प्रस्तुत करते हुए मैं दो शब्द कह देना उचित समझता हूँ। पत्रकारों का जगत् एक अत्यन्त विचित्र जगत् है। यदि हम ने इन के ऊपर कोई ध्यान दिया होता, इन के काम करने की स्थिति पर और इन के जीवन पर कुछ ध्यान दिया होता तो हमें कुछ उस का अन्दाजा होता। लेकिन जब हम देखते हैं कि अच्छी पोशाक में पत्रकार हमारे सामने आते हैं तो उन के जीवन के रहन सहन का अन्दाजा अक्षर हमारे ऊपर पड़ता है। किन्तु इस ऊपरी पोशाक, वेशभूषा, को देख कर हम उन की आन्तरिक स्थिति को बिल्कुल भूल जाते हैं। मैं ने स्वयं अपना वर्तमान जीवन पत्रकारिता से प्रारम्भ किया था। मैं पत्रकारों के बीच में रहता हूँ और ऐसे पत्रकारों के बीच में रहता हूँ जो मामूली किस्म के पत्रकार हैं, यद्यपि वे बड़े से बड़ा और ऊँचे से ऊँचा काम करते हैं। उन की आन्तरिक स्थिति इतनी कमजोर और दुःखद है कि उस का वर्णन करना मेरी सामर्थ्य से बाहर है। फिर भी, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं थोड़ा सा चित्र उन की स्थिति का आप के सामने रखूँगा और प्रार्थना करूँगा कि मन्त्री महोदय उन की स्थिति पर विचार कर के बहुत शीघ्र ही इस स्थिति पर ध्यान दें और ऐसे क़ानून को लायें जिस से कि उन की स्थिति में सुधार हो।

मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि हमारी सरकार ने एक प्रेस कमीशन का निर्माण किया है और वह प्रेस कमीशन इस दिशा में बड़े जोरों से काम में लगा हुआ है। मुझे विश्वास है

कि जिस समय पर प्रेस कमीशन की रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने प्रस्तुत होगी, तो पत्रकार जगत् के सम्बन्ध में हम को बड़ी बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण बातें मालूम होंगी और उस समय हम उन के विषय में अधिक कहने में समर्थ होंगे, लेकिन उस समय तक इंतज़ार करना मेरे रूपाल में उचित नहीं होगा, कारण पत्रकार की स्थिति बहुत ही कमजोर है और उस की तरफ़ फौरन ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये। पत्रकार के जीवन के बारे में मैं आप को बतलाऊँ कि यद्यपि पत्रकार जगत् के हाथ में हमारे देश के तमाम प्रचार और विज्ञापन के साधन हैं, किन्तु आप देखते हैं कि पत्रों में पत्रकार के जीवन और उस की समस्याओं के बारे में किसी किस्म का प्रचार अथवा जिक्र नहीं होता। जो पत्रकार समाचारों को बना कर, माँज कर संसार के सामने पेश करता है, वह स्वयं उन पत्रों के बीच में अपनी स्थिति को नहीं लाता। आप ने अक्सर देखा होगा कि समाचारपत्रों में वह बड़े बड़े व्याख्यान हड़तालें और श्रमिकों के आन्दोलनों के समाचार छापता है और उन के विषय में अपने पत्र में प्रचार भी करता है, किन्तु पत्रकार अपने विषय में समाचार पत्र में कुछ नहीं लिखता, वह शान्तिपूर्वक अपने पत्रकारिता के काम में लगा हुआ है और आज तक अपने विषय में उस ने कोई आवाज़ नहीं उठायी। अब हमारा यह धर्म हो जाता है कि ऐसे शक्त के लिए जो राष्ट्र के कल्याण हेतु दिन रात हम से भी अधिक परिश्रम कर रहा है और जो हमारे सामने भविष्य की एक उज्ज्वल रूपरेखा रखने के लिए सदा सन्नद्ध रहता है, उस के लिए हम भी कुछ करें और उस समय तक की प्रतीक्षा न करें जब कि वह स्वयं अपने लिए मजबूर होकर आवाज़ उठाने के लिए उद्यत हो जाय। आप देखते हैं कि एक मिठाई वाला मिठाई बनाता है लेकिन स्वयं उस को नहीं खाता ठीक वही हालत हमारे पत्रकारों की है। वह स्वयं समाचारों का निर्माण करता

[Shri M. L. Dwivedi]

है, और समाचार उस के लिये हीरे मोती हैं, हीरा जिस तरह खान में पड़ा होता है, और मैला कुचैला होता है, उस को बाजार में बेचने के लिए उस को साफ़ किया जाता है और तराश कर उस में चमक पैदा की जाती है और नया रूप दिया जाता है ठीक उसी प्रकार पत्रकार समाचार जो उसे मिलते हैं, उन को मांजता है, उन को ठीक रूप देता है और उन में चमक, एक आकर्षण, पैदा करता है, ताकि वह संसार के उपयोग के काबिल बन सकें और लोग उन की तरफ़ ध्यान दें और पढ़ें। पत्रकार लोग इस क्रिस्म का काम करते हैं, लेकिन वह स्वयं अपने लिए उन समाचारों, उन उज्ज्वल हीरों, का प्रयोग नहीं करता, वह अपना प्रचार उन पत्रों में नहीं करता। ऐसी स्थिति में क्या हमारा यह धर्म नहीं है कि हम उस के प्रति उपेक्षा की दृष्टि से न देखें, बल्कि उस की दशा सुधारने का प्रयत्न करें।

हमारे भारतीय संविधान में यह जो फंडामेंटल डाइरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल्स आफ़ रेटेट पालिसी है, उस के ४३ वें अनुच्छेद में यह लिखा हुआ है :

"The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities and, in particular, the State shall endeavour to promote cottage industries on an individual or co-operative basis in rural areas."

दूसरी जगह अनुच्छेद ३६ में जो 'सी' उपधारा है उस में यह लिखा है :

"(c) that the operation of the economic system does not result

in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment."

मेरा कहना यह है कि जिस प्रकार आप दुकानों, कारखानों और मिलों में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों और मजदूरों के लिए लेजिस्लेशन लाते हैं और उन की सर्विस कंडीशन्स में सुधार करने का प्रयत्न करते हैं, उसी तरह आप इन पत्रकारों की दशा सुधारने का क्यों नहीं प्रयत्न करते और क्यों नहीं उन के लिए प्रापर लेजिस्लेशन लाते ? मिल में या किसी कारखाने में बड़ी बड़ी चीजें पैदा की जाती हैं, मिल मालिक फ़ायदा उठाते हैं, यह सही है, लेकिन हम उन मिलों में काम करने वालों को मुनाफ़े में हिस्सा दिलाने के लिए और दूसरे दूसरे अधिकार दिलाने के लिए तमाम क़ानून बनाते हैं। हम ने मजदूरों और श्रमजीवियों के अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए बड़े बड़े क़ानून बनाये हैं। आज बड़े बड़े समाचारपत्र जो कि पूंजीपति लोग चलाते हैं उन के यहां जो पत्रकार लोग और कर्मचारी काम करते हैं, उन से वे पूंजीपति काम कराते हैं और जिस प्रकार मिलों में चीजों का उत्पादन होता है, उसी प्रकार इन में समाचारों का उत्पादन होता है और यह समाचार बाजार में बेचे जाते हैं और उनके बेचने से जो लाभ होता है, वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ उस पूंजीपति को होता है जो उस समाचारपत्र का मालिक होता है और जो उस का चलाने वाला होता है, लेकिन उस लाभ में श्रमजीवियों का कोई हिस्सा नहीं होता। क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि जिस प्रकार से फ़ावड़ा लेकर एक मजदूर काम करता है, या जिस प्रकार से और और दूसरे आदमी काम करते हैं, उसी प्रकार से यह पत्रकार क़लम का हथियार लेकर दिन रात वक्त बेवक़्त इधर उधर घूमता फिरता है, जीवन की तमाम समस्याओं का सामना करता है, क्या यह

पत्रकारिता का काम वैसा ही नहीं है जैसे दूसरे श्रमजीवी मजदूरों का होता है ? मेरा कहना है कि निश्चय ही होता है और ऐसी अवस्था में उस की तरफ़ उपेक्षा की दृष्टि बनाये रखना सर्वथा अनुचित और अन्यायपूर्ण है। प्रेस कमीशन का जो प्रतिवेदन है, उस की हमें प्रतीक्षा नहीं करनी चाहिये। मेरा जो संशोधन है, उस की मंशा यह है कि प्रेस कमीशन से प्रार्थना की जाय कि शीघ्र ही अभी पन्द्रह, बीस रोज़ के अन्दर अन्दर यानी पन्द्रह जनवरी के भीतर वह अपना एक अन्तर्कालीन प्रतिवेदन सरकार के सामने प्रस्तुत करे, सरकार के सामने अपनी इंटरिम रिपोर्ट पेश करे और उस रिपोर्ट में इस बात की कोशिश करें कि जो उन्होंने ने अभी तक हाल देखा है और जो अभी तक अध्ययन किया है, उस के सम्बन्ध में हम को जानकारी करायें, ताकि हमारी सरकार इन हजारों श्रमजीवी पत्रकारों के लिए एक ऐसे कानून का सृजन कर सके जिस से उन की हालत सुधर सके और उन को भी वही अधिकार और सुविधाएं सुलभ हो सकें जो दूसरे श्रमजीवी और काम करने वालों को मिलती हैं। मेरे पास अधिक समय नहीं है, बैसे कहने को तो बहुत कुछ है, इसलिए संक्षेप में मैं इतना ही कह कर आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस अवसर पर बोलने का मौका दिया।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment moved:

That in the resolution, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and in order to give effect to this at an early stage, the Press Commission be requested to submit an interim report by the 15th of January 1954".

Shri T. N. Singh: I was listening to the speeches here and to the opinions expressed with great appreciation, with care and respect which this august House deserves. As a member

of the Press Commission, Sir, there are obvious limitations to whatever I can say on this subject. But I was certainly very much grieved to hear from my friends here in this House that there have been cases of victimization as a result of the evidence given by some working journalists before the Press Commission of which I happen to be a member. Sir, I know, as a member of the Commission,— I have had occasion to meet a number of journalists and some of them even came to us privately and told some of our members—that they feared that if they spoke out freely and frankly, they are liable to be dismissed or victimized in some other fashion. They asked for protection. Unfortunately we have no powers in that regard. We cannot give protection, as members of the Commission, to journalists who appear before us and give evidence. We cannot give them protection. Their evidence may be protected, but we cannot give the journalists protection against the consequences that may occur thereafter. That was our problem, and I think that in the interest of good work of the Commission itself, it is desirable that something should be forthcoming whereby the journalists can come before us and stand before us with confidence and express their views freely and frankly. After all, we are trying to make an objective study of the situation. We have no fixed opinions on any subject. We are liable to persuasion; we are liable to understand things and form an opinion according to whatever we get. Now, it is very necessary that all sides who are engaged in this noble profession are able to press their case properly, freely and frankly. That was a problem and I think that it is really a problem. I wish the Government would consider that aspect.

My mind has been very much exercised especially after hearing some cases to which reference has been made here. I wish it were possible, either for the Commission or for the Government, to grant protection against the consequences that may follow on those who give evidence

[Shri T. N. Singh]

before us. That is a very important thing. I certainly very much appreciate the amendment moved by my hon. friend Mr. Dwivedi who has also given due weight to the Press Commission and therefore asked that the Commission should be asked to give an interim report. I hope it will be possible for the Commission to do so, and if the Government writes to the Commission, the Commission will certainly take steps and consider those things. But so far, the Commission has nothing before them asking for any interim report. We are not expected to submit any interim report. That was a problem, and therefore, though the suggestion is to be welcomed, of course, it is for the Commission and the Government to decide finally. I am not the person to say off-hand this or that shall be done. But at the same time this problem has been exercising my mind, and I have stood here only to draw the attention of the House as to what will happen in the interim period to those who are giving evidence before us just now and also to those same persons, say, after a few months, before our recommendations are implemented by the Government. During this interregnum something has to be done, and without prejudice to whatever the Commission may say or recommend. I would only draw the attention of the Minister to this situation that seems to have arisen. I have no reason to disbelieve what the hon. Members have stated. I am also hearing certain things but I have not been able to confirm what the facts are. At the same time these are rather dangerous things. The fear on the part of members of the profession of certain consequences is hampering the work of the Commission. That is why I feel that in the interest of the good work of the Commission, of getting at facts of a very important industry and profession in this country, it is essential that Government should provide the necessary facilities and create a proper situation or circumstances. I would call upon the Government to apply their mind

seriously to this question and see what can be done, so that the Commission can do its work properly, efficiently and quickly.

Apart from anything else, I must say that the entire Commission and every one either in this House or outside is sympathetic to this noble profession of journalism. Everyone wants something to be done for them. It is a noble, though insecure profession. The newspaper industry in our country is an infant industry, which is growing in a peculiar way, with all sorts of difficulties both under the foreign rule and even now. All these things are behind that. There has obviously been great insecurity so far as the profession is concerned. Just as the Government, or any public man is concerned in the security of tenure of the services, we are all concerned in the security of journalists. The House has taken a very lively interest in this matter and it is but proper that it should give a guidance to the members of the Commission. Therefore any expression of views made here will be of great help to the Commission.

Shri Venkataraman (Tanjore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the scope of the Resolution before the House is very limited. The Resolution seeks to extend the protection such as exists in the Industrial Disputes Act to the class of working journalists, who for all practical purposes are workers like others in industry, trade, commerce and so on. We are not embarking on a piece of legislation defining the wages, conditions of employment, leave, holidays facilities, etc., with regard to the journalistic profession.

Now, the reason why this piece of legislation is so urgent is that there exists at the present day a very great confusion with regard to the law governing the working journalists and also certain classes of other industrial employees known as supervisory staff. According to the definition of workmen in our Industrial Disputes Act, if it is narrowly interpreted, only those

doing clerical and manual work can come under the category of workmen. Some courts interpret that journalists, not doing clerical work in the sense of copying work, are not workmen under the definition of the Industrial Disputes Act. Now taking such a restricted view of that Section, I find certain tribunals have given decisions restricting the applicability of the Industrial Disputes Act exclusively to manual and clerical employees, and excluding from its scope a large section of people who are doing skilled or a little higher type of work in the intellectual side. The definition of industrial Disputes is also, in my opinion, misinterpreted by certain other courts. We have defined in the Industrial Disputes Act the wording "industrial dispute" so as to mean any dispute between a workman and workman, or between workmen and employers relating to the conditions of employment, etc. of any person. I wish to emphasise the word "any person". That is not necessarily confined to the workmen. If a body of workmen in an industry falling within the definition of the Industrial Disputes Act, raise a dispute about some other person who is not under the Industrial Disputes Act a workman, even then, according to me, I think, according to the intention of the legislation, it is an industrial dispute.

Sir, courts have decided this question in very different ways. In 1949 the Federal Court in the Western India Automobile Industries case held that dispute between a workman and workman or a workman and an employer relating to a person who is not a workman is still an industrial dispute. Since then some courts and some tribunals have tended to treat that definition as *obiter dicta* and have said that in order to come within the definition of an industrial dispute the person concerned in the dispute must be a workman. Confusion in the state of law is the worst thing for any real progress. Uncertainty is the index of bad administration. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary, it is very urgent, that the Government

should settle the law on the subject and do away with the unsettlement which prevails in respect of the law applicable to this class of people.

This is not a new matter. For the last three or four years we have been repeatedly insisting in this House that not only persons doing manual and clerical work but those who are doing intellectual work should be brought within the definition of workmen. And times without number successive Ministers of Labour have promised to give their consideration and three years have not sufficed to give that consideration required for this purpose. I am therefore obliged to make a very strong and earnest appeal on this occasion to see that the Government issues an ordinance at the close of this session extending the definition so as to cover cases of not only manual and clerical workers but also intellectual workers.

Then, Sir, there is another reason why this Resolution is very opportune and very urgent. We have with all the gusto in the world appointed a Press Commission and we have trumpeted to the world that we are going to enquire not only into the conditions of the organisation of the Press, but also with regard to the working conditions of the people employed in it. If a person goes and tenders evidence before that Commission and is victimised in respect of evidence tendered by him before that Commission, there is no law in this country which can protect him. He is absolutely at the mercy of the employer. If he were governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, he can always bring that dispute before a Tribunal and plead it as a case of victimisation. Sir, we have always regarded any punishment meted out to a person who tenders evidence before courts as victimisation. In the Trade Union (Amendment) Act of 1948, which is one of the beneficent measures which we passed, but which we never practised there is a sub-clause which says, any punishment or unfair treatment of any person in respect of anything

[Shri Venkataraman]

done in furtherance of his case before the Tribunal is an unfair labour practice on the part of the employer.

Now, if the journalists who are called upon to give evidence before the Press Commission do so and if they are victimised, there is no protection at all for them. It is not necessary for us to go into the question whether or not there is such victimisation. The very possibility of such victimisation being practised is sufficient for the Government to bring forward some legislation immediately.

6 P.M.

Then, thirdly, Sir, the question relating to the condition of the journalists has been considered by the International Labour Organisation at their second session and at pages 99 and 100 of the General Report their conditions are vividly described. I shall not read the whole passage, but shall content myself by referring to the very weighty observations of this Report, which states that "the problem of negotiation with a view to concluding employment contracts or collective agreements implies the examination of the employment contract itself". And it describes the various countries where such contracts exist and says that this is one of the subjects which must be specially studied by the International Labour Organisation. It is so important that the International Labour Organisation regards it as one of the major subjects of study.

I will therefore strongly reinforce the arguments advanced by several speakers and urge upon Government to immediately take steps either to bring an amendment or issue an ordinance whereby not only working journalists but all those who are called supervisory or technical staff, people who are doing mere clerical or manual labour, may also be protected by the Industrial Disputes Act. The object of the Industrial Disputes Act is to promote harmony in industry. It is to see that there is no unnecessary stoppage of work owing to small misunderstandings which are capable of

being cured by arbitration. If that is the object, what harm can it do if the people who are falling under the category of intellectual workers are given the protection? There is no virtue in excluding the intellectual workers from the Act. Other countries have included them. For instance the Australian legislation and the Canadian legislation have provided for disputes between people like working journalists and their employers to be considered by their national arbitration boards. I would therefore strongly urge upon Government to immediately take steps either by legislation or by an ordinance, if necessary, to see that the protection of the Industrial Disputes Act is granted to the journalists.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like to know the sense of the House. There have been representative speeches. Of course there are other hon. Members who want to take part. But, if it is felt that it is very urgent and the views of the Government ought to be known and action should be speedily taken, like an ordinance as was suggested by Mr. Venkataraman, if that is the sense of the House I shall call upon the hon. Minister at quarter past six, after giving an opportunity to one more Member. If, otherwise, the intention is to carry on this to the next session I have no objection to allow other hon. Members.

Shri S. S. More: We are not keen on making a speech, as a matter of fact and if the Minister is given an opportunity to speak it would be much more better and desirable. It will carry some assurance to the working journalists. Our object is not merely to make speeches.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not casting any aspersion.

Shri S. S. More: I am supporting what you are saying, Sir. This is a rare occasion on which I am supporting you.

श्री० राम सुभग सिंह (शाहबाद—दक्षिण) :
अब शुरू करें ?

मिस्टर डिप्टी स्पीकर : आप शुरू करते
हैं ? अच्छा ।

Shri U. C. Patnaik (Ghumsur): Sir, there is the other resolution. We request you to permit us to begin it at the end.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): Sir, the point is, as Mr. More has said, we would like to hear the hon. Minister. Many of us are keen on speaking.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: If he agrees to the resolution we do not want to speak.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: If he agrees to the resolution we do not want to go on. Otherwise we want to press.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will call upon the hon. Minister. Let this be the general understanding. If the hon. Minister speaks sufficiently assuring to hon. Members and if the House is satisfied then I will put the motion to the vote of the House and proceed to the next motion. The hon. Minister.

Shri V. V. Giri: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am glad that different sections of the House have stated their views on this very important problem. I am glad this subject has come before this House, and also the other House—in the other House in the form of a half an hour discussion. I can readily and immediately assure all sections of the House that the Government is not only interested, is not only sympathetic, but is anxious to take action in the matter. I made that position very clear when the Industrial Disputes Act was discussed, in this House as well as the other House. I have stated clearly that the Government is anxious to see how best it could bring the working journalists within the scope of the Industrial Disputes Act. In fact, Sir, when the Times of India workers' case came before this House in the form of a short notice question,

I immediately tried to do my best and tell the employers that, whatever the definition be at the present moment, about which we are carefully looking into, the employers should give the same benefit to the working journalists though they do not come within the purview of the definition or though there are doubts whether they come or not. I am happy to say that the employers have agreed to my suggestion and are trying to carry out the suggestion namely, giving the advantage of the benefit to the working journalists also. No doubt a case has been referred to by my hon. friend, the Mover of the Resolution and I have made a promise on the floor of the House. I made a promise to that gentleman himself who came and met me and immediately Government has written to the employers as to why this case was made an exception. I hope I will hear from them.

On the other hand, Sir, when the PTI workers case came before the other House, I immediately took action. Mr. Devadas Gandhi, met me, Mr. Goenka met me and Mr. Parulekar also met me. Whatever it be, they were sympathetic enough to say that they will consider the demands of these PTI workers and if necessary meet them and discuss with them across the table their grievances and demands. I do not mean to say that the House should be satisfied with this assurance. I do not wish to say that, in view of these assurances, the law will not be applied to the working journalists. I only wish to say that I took time by the forelock when the grievances were brought to my notice, which otherwise may not have been attended to. Government took immediate action to see that in these two cases the workers were not very much injured.

My hon. friend Shri T. N. Singh is a member of the Press Commission over which Justice Rajadhyaksha presides. I have very great respect for the Chairman because he was the adjudicator in many important disputes between employers and workers

[Shri V. V. Giri]

and his judgment was much appreciated by the workers and employers also. I have anticipated the amendment moved by my hon. friend who desired that the Press Commission, if it wants to go into this matter, should inform its interim findings to us by the 15th of January.

At my request, my hon. colleague Dr. Keskar has already informed the Commission of this anticipated Amendment and of our desire that it would be nice to have the views of the Commission before January. Dr. Keskar has also stated that it is my humble view that the Industrial Relations Bill should come up and is expected to come up early, and therefore we would like to have their view before the end of January. That also we have made clear to the Commission and I do hope that the Chairman of the Commission, Justice Rajadhyaksha, and the various gentlemen of the Commission—some of them are eminent journalists, some of them are eminent public men, some of them are Members of this House—who are there will consider this request and will accede to the request made by me on behalf even of all the different sections of this House.

Anyway, these last three or four months the working journalists have made a great headway by bringing forward their issues before both these hon. Houses and I am sure it is a great education to the employers.

Another point has been placed before the House by my hon. friend Mr. T. N. Singh and Mr. Gurupadaswamy and some others who said that there was victimisation or fear of victimisation if these working journalists appeared before the Press Commission and gave evidence. I want to appeal to the employers, knowing as they must the view of the Government to protect the interests of the working journalists, that they should take a democratic view of things and they should be pleased that their employees who are working journalists are given the right to appear before

the Press Commission to express their views as much as the employers who desire to express their views in support of their contentions. I therefore appeal to the employers not to become nervous, not to become shy, not to become angry with their employees because they would like to appear before the Commission. I want to appeal to them that they should, on the other hand, be pleased and happy that their employees are independent, are prepared to express their views, and I am absolutely certain that the employers will take note of this fact that if really there are cases of victimisation or there are going to be cases of victimisation, and if I am convinced that there has been victimisation because they appeared before the Commission, I shall try to use my best offices to see that that victimisation is not resorted to.

The Resolution which my friend Shri D. C. Sharma has brought forward is one near to my own heart, and I can assure him that irrespective of the attitude I may have to adopt for practical reasons, my sympathies are wholly with the Resolution. I have intimately known journalists ever since I started my own public career, and I have had life-long interest in the welfare of the working classes. I may assure you I was a journalist myself of an impecunious journal in connection with the labour movement. When I was running it, I was editor, chaprasi, everything. Therefore, I also know the difficulties of journalists who are really suffering from great disadvantages at the present moment. I am in a particularly advantageous position of knowing the past sufferings of the journalists, their present handicaps and their future aspirations. So, I approach this problem as a friend and sympathiser, and, if I may say so without being presumptuous, as a knowledgeable person who is keen to do what he can to ameliorate the conditions of a class of employees whose activities are so intimately connected with every facet of public life. I know that my friends the journalists have reason to feel a

sense of urgency about their demands. The sudden closure of certain important papers in Calcutta, without previous warning, and apparently without adequate safeguards has created a sense of panic in the minds of the journalists. Fortunately on this occasion, as I have already stated, the employers, no doubt, sensing public feeling on the subject, have agreed to extend even to employees who are not covered by the adjudication ordered under the Industrial Disputes Act, the benefits granted by the adjudicator to those who are so covered, but good sense and responsible public feeling may not always govern employers' decisions. And it is obvious that the interests of employees must be safeguarded by rights rather than sympathy and concessions.

With so much of sympathy on my part, hon. Members may wonder why I should not cut short my speech by the announcement that I accept the Resolution, and that I shall take immediate steps to implement it by amending the law. As you may be aware, the Industrial Disputes Act is applicable, at the present moment, only to persons employed in manual or clerical work. It does not apply to various other categories of employees whose work is not primarily manual or clerical. There is no doubt in our going into past history or examining why the scope of the law was restricted to certain categories of wage earners. The industrial relations law in its present form is of comparatively recent growth, and our ideas have undergone great changes since we attained independence. What the workers were prepared to accept and put up in 1947, they are not in a mood to tolerate in 1953. It is therefore no reflection on our predecessors that they were responsible for the enactment of a law with a limited scope. But the fact remains that we have still to do justice to large groups of wage earners. The working journalists have, no doubt, long suffered, and undoubtedly deserve a better deal. They were the only substantial group of employees left out of the scope of the Industrial Disputes Act, and hence

denied the right to get their disputes and grievances adjudicated upon by Tribunals. Government would have had no hesitation in promptly acceding to their demands, and undertaking the necessary legislation for the purpose, but long before working journalists put forward their demand, other groups of workers raised theirs. In the framing of the new industrial relations law, it will certainly be our endeavour to bring as many categories of wage earners as possible within the scope of this law.

As regards the Press Commission, I have already stated my views on the matter. The Press Commission has already been requested, if it is possible, to let us know their views by the end of January next. Government feel, that every effort should be made to bring in all hitherto neglected categories of wage earners within the scope of the industrial relations law at a very early date. It would be difficult for them to make a distinction in favour of one category. If a special law were enacted to cover only working journalists, I am sure other categories will have a great grievance. We therefore propose to cure this defect of the existing law in the proposed industrial relations bill, which I hope, will soon see the light of the day at an early date. I do not wish to take more time of the House. I have generally expressed my views on the questions that have been raised in this House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In view of what the hon. Minister has stated, I do not think it will be necessary to pursue the matter further in this House. But I am bound to put both the amendments and the Resolution to the vote of the House, unless hon. Members do not want to press the amendments or the Resolution.

Shri V. V. Giri: In view of what I have stated, I would request my hon. friends, if they feel satisfied, and also the House, to kindly withdraw the Resolution as well as the amendments.

Shri S. S. More: May I make a submission, Sir? This is a Resolution by the House. It is not categorical and immediately binding on Government. It only indicates the way in which the wind is blowing, and in view of the moral and more vocal support which the hon. Minister has given, I think it will be proper, if we pass the Resolution. I am sure, all sections of the House will join in passing the Resolution.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): That will be a test of his sincerity.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: We do not see any reason why the original Resolution should be withdrawn and the hon. Minister has more or less supported the Resolution. Then we should pass it. That will strengthen his hands.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Government thinks that no strengthening is necessary. *(Interruptions)*

Now, I leave it to hon. Members and place the matter before the House. The question is:

That in the resolution, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and in order to give effect to this at an early stage, the Press Commission be requested to submit an interim report by the 15th of January 1954".

Shri T. N. Singh: There was one point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: At this stage, what is the point.

Shri V. V. Giri: I think we should leave it at that.

Shri T. N. Singh: On a point of order, Sir. How is the amendment consistent with the main Resolution, because the House having expressed an opinion on the point, what is the Press Commission going to express on? We want the Press Commission to override the opinion of the House? After all, Parliament is a supreme, sovereign body.

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Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. There is no point of order. What Mr. Singh feels is that if the House expresses an opinion and the Press Commission should come to a different conclusion, the House will be unnecessarily inviting an opinion against itself. That is what he means.

Shri T. N. Singh: No, no. What I wanted to say was that the House is a supreme authority. It is a sovereign body. Once the House expresses an opinion, no other body or Committee or anything has the right to express anything against what the House has decided, or differ from anything that the House has said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is too big a constitutional point to enter my mind at this stage.

Shri Radha Raman (Delhi City): But he is withdrawing the amendment, Sir.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: We are prepared to withdraw both the amendment and the Resolution.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The Resolution cannot be withdrawn. Why should the Resolution be withdrawn?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members are aware that if a Resolution is...

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The Resolution cannot be withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nothing is lost. The paper is here before me. Hon. Members are still in their seats. There is no fear.

Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad): It must be withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If some voice is heard against the withdrawal of the amendment, I cannot allow withdrawal. It must be put to vote. That is the rule.

The question is:

That in the resolution, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and in order to give effect to this at an early stage the Press

Commission be requested to submit an interim report by the 15th of January 1954".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Any how there is an assurance.

Has the hon. the Mover leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution?

Shri S. S. More: No, Sir.

Some Hon. Members: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. The question is:

"This House is of opinion that all journalists in the employ of newspaper organisations in the country should be brought within the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (XIV of 1947), which may be amended, if necessary, for the purpose".

Some Hon. Members: The 'Ayes' have it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The 'Ayes' will kindly stand in their seats.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It has to be recorded. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Why do they not accept it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There is no question about this. All are agreed. The hon. Minister has categorically accepted every suggestion made. But he, for some reason, thinks that the Resolution need not be passed. This is only a technical affair. The Resolution was brought by.....

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: With very great respect, I submit that it is not for you to interpret what the Minister has....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I am not going to allow a division on that subject. That is open to me.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The point appears to be this. For this Resolution
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there appears to be support from all sections of the House. So if the Division bell is rung, we would have a better indication of the mood of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very good. I will know the mood of the House. The rule says:

"If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is challenged, he may, if he thinks fit,....

Shri D. C. Sharma: In view of the assurance of the hon. Minister for Labour, I would like to withdraw my Resolution.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: No, no.

Sir, we cannot understand why the hon. Minister wants to have it withdrawn.

Shri V. V. Giri: I have accepted the spirit of the resolution, and therefore the hon. Member has accepted to withdraw.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no good going on pressing hon. Members to accept one course or the other. That is none of my business. All that I can say is, if the withdrawal is opposed when the hon. Minister accepts the spirit of the resolution, I will put it to the House. So far as division is concerned, it is open to me.

"If the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision of a question is challenged, he may, if he thinks fit, ask the members who are for 'Aye' and those for 'No' respectively to rise in their places...."

Shri S. S. More: We request you not to think it fit, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think it fit to ask hon. Members to rise in their seats.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Sir, please record the names.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not going to record the names.

Shri Sthasana Singh: On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no point of order, now.

The motion was negatived.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkal): Sir, there are a large number of neutrals. The Deputy Minister of Labour is neutral.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. The resolution is lost.

RESOLUTION RE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PROMOTION OF RIFLE TRAINING

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that with a view to inculcate discipline, marksmanship, initiative and leadership in the youth of India, Government should provide facilities for promotion of rifle training, inter alia by—

(a) subsidising the National Rifle Association and providing it with necessary aid, in the shape of arms and ammunitions and otherwise;

(b) co-ordinating the efforts of the Auxilliary Territorial Force with recognised local rifle clubs so as to provide for training programmes throughout the year;

(c) relaxing import restrictions and minimising the duty for specialised weapons required by recognised clubs; and

(d) relaxing the provisions of the Indian Arms Act of 1878 accordingly."

Shall I proceed, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: Sir, this is a very important resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly hear him.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: The representative of the Home Ministry is not here in the House, Sir.

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): Sir, I am here.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: Sir, this is a very simple resolution with a simple object.

The main object of this resolution is to encourage marksmanship and rifle-mindedness in the youth of India, especially in the intelligentsia of India. With a view to encourage this, the Government should come forward with assistance, financial and otherwise to enterprises in this behalf. As it is, there is a National Rifle Club which is functioning for some time past and it has shown initiative and capacity to organise local rifle clubs everywhere. It is therefore advisable on the part of Government to give all assistance to that club and see that it is able to help the organisation and development of rifle clubs elsewhere in India. The fact that the President of India is the Patron of that Association and that the hon. Speaker of this House is the President of that Association is a sufficient guarantee that it is an institution which can be depended upon for its efficiency as well as its capacity to organise these clubs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will continue on the next day. The House stands adjourned and will meet again at 1-30 p.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till Half Past One of the Clock on Saturday, the 19th December, 1953.